

Diane Duyser



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## 9/11 commission suggested Pentagon take over for CIA Page 7



PHOTOS: LEFT, MIAMI HERALD/AP; ABOVE, THE WICHITA EAGLE /AP

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a time for giving,  
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# STARS & STRIPES

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# News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Dangerous medicines:** New reports accuse another drug company of being too slow to pull a dangerous medication from the market and question the ability of the federal Food and Drug Administration to protect the public from such risks.

This time it's Baycol, a cholesterol-lowering medicine that Bayer AG withdrew in 2001 after some people who took it developed a severe and sometimes fatal muscle disorder. A new study found that the risks were far greater than had been believed.

The study concludes that today's top-selling cholesterol-lowering drugs, called statins, are very safe, but could be risky when taken with other drugs called fibrates by older people with diabetes.

**Robert Blake murder trial:** Prospective jurors being interviewed for the Robert Blake murder case were warned that they will have no DNA evidence, no fingerprints and no eyewitnesses and will have to judge the actor entirely on circumstantial evidence.

Jury selection began six days ago and Deputy District Attorney Shelle Samuels has been setting the stage for Blake's trial in Los Angeles that will enter the evidentiary phase Dec. 6.

**Political eavesdropping:** A federal judge has denied a request by former Virginia House of Delegates Speaker S. Vance Wilkins to be removed from a lawsuit stemming from a Republican eavesdropping scandal.

U.S. District Judge James R. Spencer on Monday also denied a request by the state Republican Party to limit the amount it might have to pay in the lawsuit brought by 33 current and former Democratic General Assembly members.

The lawsuit against the GOP, Wilkins, his former chief of staff Claudia D. Tucker, former state GOP executive director Edmund A. Matricardi III, and former state chairman Gary Thomson stems from a 2002 incident in which Matricardi eavesdropped on two Democratic conference calls.

**Insulating radio host:** A Madison, Wis., radio host apologized Monday for calling secretary of state nominee Condoleezza Rice "Aunt Jemima," but refused to back down from his criticism that she is a "black trophy" of the Bush administration.

John "Sly" Sylvester, the program director and morning personality on WTDY-AM,



**Chinese airliner crash:** Rescuers continue their search Monday for the black boxes at the site of a crash of a China Eastern Airlines plane in Baotou, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The death toll from the crash rose to 55 after the body of a second person killed on the ground was found. Investigators have found no evidence of terrorism or other "man-made destruction" after the plane exploded after takeoff and plunged into an ice-covered lake.

wrote a letter of apology to local newspapers.

"I'm concerned that I have offended many African-Americans by using a crass term to describe an incompetent, dishonest political appointee of the Bush administration. I apologize," wrote Sylvester, who is white.

**Darfur drought:** Sudan's Darfur region, already engaged in a conflict that has forced 1.8 million people to flee their homes, faces a new threat — a drought that has all but wiped out this year's harvest, the top U.S. aid official says.

Andrew Natsons, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development, said farmers who stayed on their land during the 21-month conflict now are beginning their major harvest, but they're expected to reap just 10 percent to 15 percent of the normal yield.

## Business

**Banker banned:** Former star technology banker Frank Quattrone, convicted on criminal charges of obstructing justice, has been barred from the securities industry for life by regulators for allegedly failing to cooperate in an investigation of his activities.

The National Association of Securities Dealers, the brokerage industry's self-policing group, announced Monday that its National Adjudicatory Council had permanently banned Quattrone from the industry, over-

riding a January decision by a hearing panel to suspend him for only a year.

## World

**Allegations of abuse:** The United Nations is investigating 150 allegations of sexual abuse by peacekeepers in Congo, a disturbing sign that efforts to rid the so-called "blue helmets" of such misconduct in recent years haven't worked, officials said Monday.

The allegations include pedophilia, rape and soliciting prostitutes, said Jane Holl Lute, assistant secretary-general for peacekeeping operations. Similar claims have been made against peacekeepers working under the U.N. mandate in the past.

The allegations in Congo started coming to light in the spring, and formal investigations have begun in several cases, she said.

There are allegedly photographs and video footage backing some of the claims.

**North Korea food aid:** North Korea will need food aid for more than 6 million people next year, as a harvest shortfall and soaring prices in fledgling private markets leave most families unable to get enough to eat, U.N. agencies said Tuesday.

The report by the World Food Program and the Food and Agriculture Organization came amid efforts to restart stalled six-nation talks on U.S. demands for the North to give up its nuclear ambitions.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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# Misawa seeking ski, snowboard instructors

## Training offered to become certified to teach beginners

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Calling all experienced skiers and snowboarders: Outdoor Recreation has a deal for you.

Pay just \$75 to spend five days at a local ski resort perfecting your technique with professionals.

In return, agree to teach snowboarding or skiing for three Saturdays this winter to youth and adults in Outdoor Recreation's "learn-to" programs.

"Really, what they're getting is five days on the slopes," said Ron Stark, director of Outdoor Recreation and Weasel's Den, the base's new indoor recreation center. "The only thing they have to buy is their lunch."

Every winter Outdoor Recreation sponsors an Amateur Ski Instructor Association Level 1 Certification Course to groom instructors for the Misawa base community.

"We offer learn-to-ski and snowboard programs from January to March, and we want to be able to have professionally trained instructors," Stark said.

The Amateur Ski Instructors Association, known as ASIA, is a U.S. professional non-profit organization formed in 1980 and run by its members, according to the ASIA Web site, [www.asiak.org](http://www.asiak.org). The school is a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America and American Association of Snowboard Instructors. One of ASIA's goals is to train and certify candidates who are interested in teaching alpine, snowboard and cross-country skiing at the amateur level through ski clubs, schools, colleges, youth groups and other organizations. ASIA certification is nationally recognized and can be used anywhere, Stark said.

At Misawa, the ASIA certification programs first were offered eight years ago, and again each year for the past five winters, Stark said. This year's Misawa pro-



JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

Ron Stark, Misawa Air Base's Outdoor Recreation director, stacks skis in the agency's new location at the Weasel's Den. Equipment rentals begin Dec. 17, the day before most ski and snowboard resorts in northern Japan open for the winter. Outdoor Recreation still seeks applicants to become nationally certified ski and snowboard instructors.

gram runs 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily from Dec. 18 to Dec. 22. Stark said the ASIA instructors teaching the Misawa course are Bill Hornbeck, ASIA founder and chief executive officer; and Rick Svencer, a snowboard instructor at Killington, Vt. Hornbeck is 77, Stark said, "and he skis like you wouldn't believe."

The sign-up deadline is Dec. 1. Each program has 10 student slots; both are open to other bases in Japan and South Korea. Stark said this year two people from Yokosuka Naval Base and four from Yokota Air Base have signed up and spots still are available. Outsiders, however, must pay the full \$375 tuition because they won't be able to teach for Misawa's Outdoor Recreation, officials said. For locals, Outdoor Recreation picks up the \$300 tuition. Students from Misawa pay Outdoor Recreation only \$50 for "logistics expenses" and \$25 to ASIA for membership, Stark said. In exchange, they sign a service contract to teach three

basic-level ski or snowboard courses over the course of the winter.

The contract obligation is from January to March, Stark said, during which ASIA instructors must teach at least three Saturday learn-to programs. "The teaching is two to three hours," he said. "The rest of the time you get to go ski and snowboard and have some fun."

Applicants for the ASIA course must be 18 or older and of an upper-level intermediate or advanced skill level. "You must be able to ski or snowboard on groomed slope up to black diamond," Stark said.

The ASIA class likely will be taught on the slopes of Otsumakayama or Apya, depending on conditions, he said; class members "will be on the mountain between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m." They'll be trained to teach basic skills, such as snowplow stops on skis and sliding turns on snowboards.

Advanced skiers and snowboarders find it "hard to teach the really basic things be-

## Getting into gear

When the first snow flies in northern Japan, winter outdoor sports enthusiasts at Misawa Air Base can hit the slopes in new gear. Outdoor Recreation has purchased more than 40 brand-new snowboards and 40 pairs of youth skis and snowshoes, said Ron Stark, director of Outdoor Recreation and Weasel's Den, the base's new indoor recreation center.

"People should be getting a lot better quality equipment this year," he said.

Outdoor Recreation also rents short skis and cross-country ski equipment. All equipment comes in both youth and adult sizes. People may start to rent equipment on Dec. 17 but Stark recommends that first-timers call ahead for a fitting. Outdoor Recreation keeps the information on file and customers prefered are given priority, Stark noted.

Outdoor Recreation is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. It will be closed on Dec. 24, Dec. 25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. It's in the Weasel's Den in Hangar 973.

— Jennifer H. Svan

cause they haven't done these for years," Stark said. Technique improvement is also part of the course. "They want to make sure if you're teaching that your technique is really good."

Military members must show proof of approved leave during the course dates, he said. Anyone who withdraws or fails the course must reimburse Outdoor Recreation the \$300 tuition fee. (Only one person has failed the course in five years, Stark noted.) The program carries a bonus for service members, he said: Teaching for Outdoor Recreation is considered community volunteering and staffers will document those hours for Enlisted Performance Reports.

Call DSN 226-9378 for more information or to become an ASIA instructor for Outdoor Recreation.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: [svanjp@pstripes.osd.mil](mailto:svanjp@pstripes.osd.mil)

## Army offering anti-terror pamphlet

BY VINCE LITTLE  
Stars and Stripes

U.S. Army Japan officials began distributing a pamphlet and informational wallet card this week aimed at preventing a terrorist act within the local community.

The brochure, titled "Combating Terrorism: Important Things You Should Know and Do," is being handed out at the gates to all U.S. Army Japan installations, including Camp Zama and Hardy Barracks. It contains tips for spotting potential terrorist operatives and other warning signs designed to bolster vigilance.

"Awareness is the key to preventing acts of terrorism," Staff Sgt. Richard Rau, the noncommissioned officer in charge of operations at the Camp Zama Provost Marshal's Office, said in a written statement. "In understanding this, we draw the conclusion that we know our home, work and recreational environments better than any outsider trying to make the determination as to what belongs and what does not."

"Each and every community member is a sensor. If you see something that is out of place or witness an act which does not seem interpreted as terrorist activity and you do nothing, you are simply aiding the terrorist(s) in the completion of their goal."

Sgt. 1st Class N. Maxfield, a U.S. Army Japan spokesman, said the campaign was not created in response to any new specific threats against the base or its operating locations. "It's basically a routine public-service announcement," he added.

According to Rau, information has been compiled

from resources such as the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, CIA, Counterterrorism Security Group, National Security Council, Homeland Security Agency and U.S. military officials.

The pamphlet addresses clear definitions of terrorism, surveillance detection, questions about sensitive areas, mail and how it could facilitate attacks and the practice of "dry runs" and steps that can be taken to prevent them. Law-enforcement contacts are included in the packet for people who observe suspicious activities and need a quick reference point.

Rau points to FBI data that suggest more than 50 percent of terrorist attacks were perpetrated after a successful "dry run," a rehearsal of sorts typically carried out in open, public areas.

"More often than the dry runs, surveillance was conducted in an equally visible or obvious way in which the terrorists were seen conducting the spy-style method for gathering their intelligence prior to the execution of their plans," Rau wrote.

"It is very apparent what doesn't belong. It is equally imperative that we, as soldiers, civilians and family members, do everything we can to keep the vigilance in our small, close-knit community. We can little afford an opportunity where an act of terrorism would find any one of us."

Army officials said they did not know whether other U.S. military bases around the Pacific were taking part in the anti-terrorism campaign. Additional copies of the pamphlet will be offered to Army units for training and awareness sessions, according to Rau.

E-mail Vince Little at: [littlevp@pstripes.osd.mil](mailto:littlevp@pstripes.osd.mil)

## Scenic exercise



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Forward-deployed U.S. Navy ships sail in formation past Japan's Mount Fuji at the conclusion of ANNUELEX, a bilateral exercise with Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force. It's conducted every year to coordinate and test both navies' abilities to work together.

# Okinawa ambassador calls post 'one of toughest'

By DAVID ALLEN  
Stars and Stripes

NAHA, Okinawa — Being Tokyo's ambassador in charge of Okinawa affairs, said Sadaaki Numata, is one of the most difficult tasks in his 38 years of being a diplomat.

"Except for my two years in Pakistan, this is one of the toughest jobs I've had," Numata said during an interview at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' office in Naha. He is moving on to an as-yet-unselected post in December.

Part of his two-year stint in Pakistan was during the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks in the United States, when Taliban-supported terrorists also operated in Pakistan.

"It was a rather turbulent period," said Numata, 61, "I had to come face to face with terror."

As Tokyo's ambassador in Okinawa, he said, he often found himself "between a rock and a hard place," acting as a third-party mediator between the U.S. military and Okinawans, elected officials and the general population.

The position was established in February 1997. In part it was in response to a renewed anti-base movement sparked by three U.S. servicemen's 1995 abduction and brutal rape of a local 12-year-old girl. Relations between the islanders and the U.S. military were at their lowest ebb since the riots that eventually led to Okinawa's return to Japanese sovereignty in 1972.

To ease tensions, the United States and Japan agreed in 1996 to reduce by 21 per-

## Official acts as bridge between military, locals

cent the land used by U.S. bases, which cover a fifth of the island. The new ambassador's job was to "act as a bridge between the U.S. forces on Okinawa and the local citizens," Numata said.

There is actually a tripartite relationship, he said. "There are the local governments, the U.S. military and the national government. It is my job to bridge the gaps" between the Okinawa community and the requirements of the U.S. military under the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty.

Ninety-five percent of his time on Okinawa is spent in such a role, Numata said. Part of that is getting the message out to the military servicemen, civilian workers and their families — "not to cause accidents and incidents," he said.

"In reality, I have found my job is somewhat like that of a fireman. ... We are like *hi no yoin* to everybody," he said, referring to people who act as neighborhood fire watchers. "But fires do happen. And when they do, we rush out and try to put them out as quickly as possible."

Numata said the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty is important to the Western Pacific's peace and security. Okinawa's location plays a key role in maintaining that stability, he said, making it important that good American-Okinawan relations be sustained.

And it is also true that there are inherent tensions and conflicts in that relationship, he said. "That is why I have been trying hard to describe to my counterparts in

the U.S. military the complexities of the sentiments of the Okinawan people on the base issue."

U.S. bases have been a major part of Okinawa's landscape for nearly 60 years, since the Battle of Okinawa began in April 1945. Numata said Okinawans believe Imperial Japan sacrificed them to try to delay the U.S. invasion of the Japanese main islands.

And they felt abandoned, he said, during the next 27 years of U.S. occupation and the continued presence of the U.S. bases after the island prefecture was returned to Japan.

Some 75 percent of the U.S. bases in Japan and 60 percent of the personnel are based on Okinawa," Numata said. "This makes the Okinawans feel that the rest of Japan has a NIMBY syndrome — not in my back yard — when it comes to the American bases."

"They feel they have been given the rough end of the stick."

Some people new to Okinawa might see an accident or incident caused by a U.S. servicemember as an isolated event, he said, "but that is not how the Okinawans see it. It invokes the memory of all the past incidents and accidents and recalls a feeling of frustration."

"When something major happens, it's like there's a hole in the crust of the peace here and the old fears rise to the surface, like volcanic magma. That's what happened in 1995 and, to some extent, in last August's helicopter accident."

On Aug. 13 a Marine helicopter crashed at the base of a university building adjacent to Futenma Marine Corps Air Station, a base to be closed as part of the deal to reduce the U.S. footprint on the island.

But the base will not be closed until a new base is built in the waters off northeastern Okinawa, a project that won't be completed for 10 years or more. Some Okinawan officials argue that even though no civilians were injured Aug. 13, Futenma, in an urban area, is "an accident waiting to happen."

They have demanded it be closed immediately.

"So, here I am," Numata said. "I try to explain to my American counterparts that they need to be very sensitive to these local sensibilities. On the other side of the coin, I ask my Okinawa friends if they might perhaps try to see the U.S.-Japan alliance in a more positive light, that if you look beyond Okinawa at the world in general, it's a pretty dangerous place. You cannot take security for granted."

"There's a need for the people of Okinawa to at least try to understand the mind-set of the U.S. military personnel," he said. "They are here on a mission to defend the peace and security of Japan, along with Japan's own self-defense forces. They are ready to put themselves in harm's way for Japan."

He said his greatest challenge was handling repercussions from the August accident. "We felt we were accountable to the people of Okinawa to be able to explain the actions taken by the United States military."

E-mail David Allen at: allen@pstrsips.osd.mil

## Roh, Adm. Fargo meet in Hawaii

HONOLULU — South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun met with the commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific Monday, one of several events during a whirlwind 16-hour stopover in Hawaii.

Roh and Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, appeared for photos Monday morning before an hour-long meeting at the Kahala Maunaloa hotel.

Roh and Fargo declined to take questions on their discussions, but a spokesman for the South Korean Consulate said the agenda included issues of terrorism and security in the Pacific region.

The U.S. military has thousands of troops stationed in South Korea, which falls under Fargo's command.

Roh had participated in the annual 21-nation Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Santiago, Chile, over the weekend before arriving late Sunday night at Hickam Air Force Base.

Roh expressed regret that the tight 16-hour schedule precluded a visit to the Pacific Command headquarters at Camp H.M. Smith.

From The Associated Press



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# 5,000 coalition soldiers engage south of Baghdad

BY TINI TRAN

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Some 5,000 U.S. Marines, British troops and Iraqi commandos launched raids and arrested suspected insurgents Tuesday in a new offensive aimed at clearing a swath of insurgent hotbeds south of Baghdad, the U.S. military said.

In other violence, masked gunmen assassinated a Sunni cleric north of Baghdad — the second such killing in as many days — and insurgents hit a U.S. convoy with a roadside bomb near the central Iraqi city of Samarra, prompting the Americans to open fire, killing an Iraqi, hospital officials said.

The new offensive was the third large-scale military assault this month aimed at suppressing Iraq's persistent insurgency ahead of crucial elections set for Jan. 30.

The region of dusty, small towns south of the capital has become known as the "triangle of death" for the frequent attacks by car bombs, rockets and small

arms on U.S. and Iraqi forces there and for frequent ambushes on travelers.

The military said violence has surged in the area in an apparent attempt to divert attention away from the U.S. assault on Fallujah.

The joint operation kicked off with early-morning raids in the town of Jabella, 50 miles south of Baghdad, netting 32 suspected insurgents, the U.S. military said in a statement. U.S. and Iraqi forces were conducting house-to-house searches and vehicle checkpoints.

In the past three weeks, Iraqi troops and Marines have detained nearly 250 insurgents, the statement said. They have been aided by British forces from the 1st Battalion of the Black Watch Regiment, who were brought to the area from southern Basra to aid U.S. forces in closing off militant escape routes between Baghdad, Babil province to the south and Anbar province to the west.

The massive Fallujah invasion — involving some 10,000 U.S. and Iraqi troops — has left the former guerrilla stronghold mostly in

U.S. hands, though fighting with pockets of gunmen has been going on for days, the military has said. More than 50 U.S. service-members were killed and more than 400 wounded in the operation.

The slain Sunni cleric, Sheikh Ghalib Ali al-Zuhairi, was shot as he left a mosque in Muqaddiyah, 60 miles north of Baghdad, said police Col. Raisan Hussein. Al-Zuhairi was a member of the Association of Muslim Scholars, an influential group that has called for a boycott of nationwide elections.

On Monday, gunmen assassinated another prominent Sunni cleric in Mosul, Sheikh Faidh Mohamed Amin al-Faidhi. It is unclear whether the attacks were related.

Meanwhile, a top aide to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr accused the government of violating terms of the August agreement that ended an uprising by al-Sadr's followers in Najaf.

Al Smeism, al-Sadr's top political adviser, made no explicit threats as he leveled his allegations at a Baghdad news conference. But his remarks raised the



A U.S. tank burns on the back of a transport truck after it came under attack on a highway in Baghdad on Monday.

possibility of a new confrontation between the government and al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia, which rose up against U.S. and Iraqi forces in April and August.

Smeism said the government has broken a promise in the August agreement not to arrest members of al-Sadr's movement and to release most from detention.

Trouble from al-Sadr's armed followers would further complicate the security situation ahead of the January vote.

The United States is eager for the election to go ahead as planned, hoping that an elected government widely accepted by

Iraqis will take the steam out of the insurgency still raging in Sunni areas of central, western and northern Iraq as well as the capital.

But a boycott by Sunni Arabs — who make up an estimated 20 percent of the nearly 26 million population — could deprive the new government of legitimacy. The majority Shiites, believed to form 60 percent of the population, strongly support elections.

As the election approaches, U.S. commanders in Iraq probably will expand their troops by several thousand. Army units slated to depart are also being held back until after the election.

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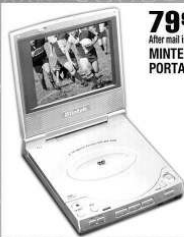
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# GI who died in Iraq refused to avoid war

BY CAROLYN THOMPSON

The Associated Press

WEST SENeca, N.Y. — When a call to active duty interrupted National Guard Spc. David Roustum's final semester in college, his Syrian-born father suggested he could avoid combat by going to Syria.

"I would send you," the father offered.

"Dad, I would never do that. This is my country and I will do whatever it takes," was Roustum's reply, his now-grieving father recalled Monday after learning Roustum had been killed in Baghdad.

"That tells you the kind of person he was,"

Military officials told Russ Roustum and his wife, Jennifer, that their youngest son died in an ambush Saturday. At least three other soldiers from Roustum's 108th Infantry Regiment were wounded, the family said.

Three of the injured soldiers' mothers came to the Roustums' suburban Buffalo home Sunday to say they believe David Roustum, 22, saved their sons' lives.

"Two of them are severely injured but the other one was able to talk to his mother," Russ Roustum said.



Roustum

not surprise him. His son, Roustum said, was a leader who played quarterback for his Orchard Park High School football

The Roustums, who live in West Seneca, had no other details on the ambush, nor did a spokesman for the Army National Guard in Albany. The Department of Defense had not yet confirmed the death Monday.

Russ Roustum said the message from the soldiers' mothers did

team and captained the club hockey team the year it went from last place to first.

Roustum, who followed his older brother into the military, had been months away from finishing an accounting degree at the University at Buffalo when he was sent to Iraq in March.

At the high school Roustum attended, flags flew at half-staff Monday and students and staff observed a moment of silence after being told of Roustum's death over the public-address system.

"David was an outstanding student, athlete, soldier and human being," said the principal, Robert Farwell.



Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari listens Monday during the opening session of a meeting of foreign ministers of Iraq and neighboring countries in Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt.

## Iraq: U.S. role crucial to success of elections

BY SALAH NASRAWI

The Associated Press

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt — Iraq told an international conference Tuesday that U.S.-led military operations in the war-ravaged country are essential to allowing all people to vote in January national elections. And it received broad global support in the process.

World leaders also discussed the upcoming Palestinian elections on the side of the conference, with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan saying the Jan. 9 polls provided an opportunity to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

But Iraq took center stage, with Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari telling the conference that security was the key concern in staging his country's Jan. 29 elections. He also defended the American-led multinational force in Iraq, which is widely seen in the Arab world as an army of occupation.

"The contribution of the multinational force is essential to help secure necessary conditions for voting and to support our security forces in stabilizing the country," Zebari said.

Zebari addressed representatives of 20 nations, including Iraq's six neighbors, and bodies such as the Group of Eight, the

European Union and the Arab League, who came to this Red Sea resort to discuss Iraq's future. The two-day conference, which ended Tuesday, was attended by states that had opposed the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq but now recognize the need to contribute to its reconstruction.

"We must guarantee that all sectors of the Iraqi electorate have an equal chance to cast their vote — free from intimidation, terror and fear spread by an extreme minority," Zebari said at this month's campaign waged against insurgents in Iraqi cities such as Fallujah and Mosul.

"The campaign in Fallujah was a difficult decision, taken after extensive negotiations, but the last course of action after all peaceful and political avenues of dialogue had been exhausted."

The conference rebutted calls from France and some Arab states to set a deadline for withdrawing the U.S.-led forces. But the final communiqué, which was approved unanimously, said pointedly that their mandate was "not open-ended."

The communiqué condemned "all acts of terrorism in Iraq," referring particularly to the kidnappings and assassinations of foreign and Iraqi civilians, aid workers, diplomats and journalists. It urged the interim government to deal firmly with terrorists, but also to avoid hurting civilians.

## First Stryker unit in Iraq honored

BY MELANTHIA MITCHELL

The Associated Press

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — Clad in desert camouflage and standing at attention, members of the first Stryker Brigade sent to Iraq were honored Monday at a homecoming ceremony after a yearlong deployment.

Hundreds of friends and family sat in the bleachers at Watkins Field snapping photos and talking excitedly. Though brigade members slowly have been trickling home since October, Monday's ceremony was the first to honor the entire unit.

The hourlong ceremony included comments from Col. Michael Rounds, commander of the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. He read the names of the 20 Stryker Brigade soldiers killed in Iraq.

"They have earned a special place in the history of the brigade. We will never forget them," he said.

The infantry brigade is anchored by the Stryker, the Army's newest medium-weight combat vehicle. The eight-wheeled Stryker is widely viewed as a visible symbol of efforts to transform the Army into a faster, more agile fighting force.

The brigade was stationed in Mosul, Balad, Samarra and Duliyah.

It conducted raids, reconnaissance and established security operations incorporating Iraqi security forces.

The post's commander, Lt. Gen. James Dubik, presented



Members of the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Fort Lewis, Wash., were welcomed home from a year in Iraq with a ceremony Monday at Watkins Field at Fort Lewis.

awards of valor to three soldiers, including Spc. Joshua Miller, who received a Silver Star for helping free a commander who became caught in debris when the squad was attacked in Mosul. Miller also is credited with single-handedly repelling a 20-man assault and killing four insurgents.

At a round-table discussion following the homecoming, Rounds and other senior leaders and soldiers echoed sentiments of national commanders that the Strykers were a key to keeping the brigade's casualties to a minimum.

"It would be significantly higher if not for the equipment," said Lt. Col. Jay Flowers, commander of 3rd Brigade's 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment.

Before coming home, members of the 3rd Brigade helped train their replacements, the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, a second Stryker unit from Fort Lewis, just south of Tacoma.

The 1st Brigade began deploying in October for a one-year mission. It includes more than 4,000 soldiers and 300 Strykers.

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## IN THE WORLD

## U.N. hostages in Afghanistan released, safe

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Three U.N. workers held hostage for nearly four weeks in Afghanistan were preparing to fly home after their release Tuesday from an ordeal that suggested Taliban-linked militants are adopting the tactics of Iraqi insurgents.

Afghan officials remained vague about the identity of the kidnappers as investigations continued. They said armed raids by U.S. and Afghan forces had increased pressure on the captors, and no deals were done to win the release.

Officials said Annetta Planigan from Northern Ireland, Philippine diplomat Angelito Nayan and Shqipëri Hehbi of Kosovo were "abandoned" by their captors in the Afghan capital early Tuesday morning.

After doctors at a NATO base in Kabul gave them the all-clear, the trio took time to telephone loved ones and wind down after their ordeal, a U.N. spokesman said.

"They are happy and relieved to see people from their own environment, the people they work with," spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said.

They will return to their home countries "very soon," he said, although there was no sign any of them would leave before Wednesday.

Armed men seized the trio from a marked U.N. vehicle on a busy Kabul street on Oct. 28, the first abduction of foreigners in the city since the fall of the Taliban three years ago.

Afghan officials have said all along they suspected a criminal group of kidnapping the group for ransom, though Taliban-linked militants claimed responsibility.

Interior Minister Ali Ahmad Jalali said Tuesday it was "possible" the group called Jaish-ul-Muslimeen had hired bandits to abduct the three, who were in Afghanistan to organize Oct. 9 presidential elections.

The group, whose name means Army of Muslims, had demanded

that Afghan authorities and the U.S. military release jailed comrades.

Syed Khalid, a spokesman for the militants, told The Associated Press on Tuesday it had freed the hostages against an "assurance that the release of our 24 people would begin today."

But Jalali insisted that neither a ransom nor prisoners were being handed over in return for the hostages' lives.

U.S. forces searching for the hostages raided two houses in the west of Kabul on Monday, though the around 10 people detailed were all quickly released, officials and neighbors said.

More important may have been a gunbattle in Qarabagh, an area north of Kabul in which Jalali said one person died and four more wounded.

The minister wouldn't elaborate on either the identity of the kidnappers or the efforts to catch them. However, a senior Defense Ministry official said the raids may have spooked the captors.



Journalists raise their hands as they ask Afghan Interior Minister Ali Ahmad Jalali more details about the hostages freed after nearly four weeks in captivity in Kabul on Tuesday. Three U.N. workers kidnapped in Afghanistan have been released unharmed after nearly four weeks in captivity, officials said Tuesday.

## N. Korea urges Bush to clarify stance on nuke dispute

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Tuesday it could resume six-nation talks on its nuclear weapons programs if President Bush's new administration agrees to change its policy toward the communist state.

"The Bush administration should give abundant clarity to its willingness to make a switchover in its policy toward the (North) and coexist with it in peace," said

Rodong Simmun, North Korea's main trade newspaper. "We would provide groundwork for the two sides to sit at the negotiating table."

The two Koreas, China, Japan, Russia and the United States have held three rounds of six-nation talks since last year on the dispute over the North's nuclear weapons program, but no breakthrough has been reported.

A fourth round was slated for September but Pyongyang re-

fused to attend amid speculation it was waiting to see who would win the U.S. presidential election.

Japan's Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi urged North Korea to return to the negotiating table now that the election is over.

"The talks with North Korea need to restart as soon as possible," he said Monday in Chile. "Through the six-party talks, we are trying to convince North Korea that there's no reason to possess nuclear weapons, but every reason to get rid of them."

The nuclear negotiations started after U.S. officials said North Korea admitted running a secret atomic program in violation of international agreements. Bush has labeled North Korea part of an "axis of evil" with Iran and pre-war Iraq and demanded an immediate halt and dismantling of all of its nuclear activities.

Washington — which hopes to restart the stalled talks by year-end or early next year — has not indicated whether it plans to alter its stance.

On Tuesday, North Korea said a willingness by the United States to change its policy on the North would be "a seed and a master key" for resuming the talks.

"It is only too plain and self-evident that the six-party talks can never be held unless the U.S., which is to blame for the destruction of their groundwork, rebuilds it," Rodong said in a commentary carried by the North's official news agency, KCNA.

In Tokyo, meanwhile, the secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party expressed doubt on the effectiveness of dealing with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il and said Japan should be prepared in case there was a regime change.

"It is increasingly doubtful that we will be able to achieve any results negotiating with the (current North Korean) government," Shinzo Abe was quoted by Japanese media as saying over the weekend.

His comments followed reports last week that Kim's portraits had been removed from public places, an unusual development because the dictator is the focus of an all-encompassing cult of personality.

Pyeongyang denied the portraits had been removed and a senior foreign official in North Korea also told The Associated Press they were still hanging.

"A change in regime is one of the possibilities we should be considering as we prepare simulations about what to do," said Abe, who has backed at applying more pressure, including economic sanctions, on North Korea.

## U.S. gives Philippines \$2.7M in defense supplies

The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — The United States handed the Philippine navy \$2.7 million worth of patrol boats, radios, ammunition, and medical equipment on Tuesday, as part of a counterterrorism package that includes training for elite units.

The U.S. equipment and supplies were presented in a ceremony at a naval base near Manila, navy spokesman Capt. Geronimo Malabanan said.

Also part of the package was an 11-month naval special operations training module, which aims to enhance the capability of the Philippine Navy's Special

Warfare Group, Malabanan said.

He said training began Sunday at different marine bases.

Navy chief Vice Adm. Ernesto de Leon said the U.S. equipment and supplies were vital for fighting local insurgencies — communist rebels, Muslim separatists and al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf extremists.

Philippines and U.S. forces have a mutual defense treaty and are close allies in the war on terrorism, holding at least 18 annual joint military drills.

U.S.-backed assaults crippled and displaced the Abu Sayyaf's main faction on southern Basil-

an island two years ago, forcing guerrillas to flee to nearby Jolo and other regions.

The military says although the Abu Sayyaf's strength is down to about 400 guerrillas from more than 1,000 four years ago, the group is still capable of bombings and other terror attacks.

In February, it claimed responsibility for bombing a ferry, killing more than 100 people.

American officials also have expressed concern over the reported presence of training camps run by Jemaah Islamiyah, al-Qaida's Southeast Asian ally that has been blamed for deadly bombings and plots in the region.

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Tens of thousands of protesters draped in the orange colors of the opposition marched on parliament in Kiev, Ukraine, on Tuesday, demanding the results of Ukraine's hotly contested presidential election be annulled, as their leader accused the government of fraud.

## Ukrainians protest election outcome

Observers call Sunday's vote flawed

BY NATASHA LISOVA

The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Tens of thousands of demonstrators packed downtown Kiev on Monday to denounce alleged fraud in Ukraine's presidential runoff election, local councils in the capital and several other cities cried foul, and a major chocolate producer closed its factories in protest.

The Central Election Commission's announcement that Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich was ahead of reformist candidate Viktor Yushchenko with nearly all the votes counted prompted widespread dismay among the former Soviet republic's 48 million people.

Russian President Vladimir Putin sent a statement to Yanukovich to congratulate him on the result, Russian news agencies reported, but a group of international observers described Sunday's balloting as severely flawed.

Sen. Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate's foreign relations committee, said outgoing President Leonid Kuchma "has both the responsibility and the opportunity to review all of this and take decisive action in the best interests of the country."

Lugar did not make specific

suggestions and it was not immediately clear what Kuchma and the authorities might do to defuse the sharply rising anger.

European Union officials also urged Ukrainian authorities to "urgently" review the results, saying the election had "clearly fallen short" of international standards.

As night fell in Kiev, demonstrators jammed the city's main avenue and took shelter from the subfreezing temperatures in a tent camp. Fears were high that frustrations could boil over into unrest, authorities brought busloads of special forces into the city in recent days.

Some demonstrators waved large Georgian flags, echoing the mass protests a year ago that drove President Eduard Shevardnadze from office in that former Soviet republic after a fraudulent parliamentary election.

As protesters milled outside the capital's city council building, its members inside passed a resolution calling on the national parliament to not recognize the election results. Four other sizable cities — Lviv, Ternopil, Vinnytsia and Ivano-Frankivsk — announced they recognized Yushchenko as president, news agencies reported. Some 20,000 protesters rallied in Lviv, Yushchenko's western stronghold region.

## Group demands investigation into alleged N. Korea gassing

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — A U.S.-based Jewish human rights group on Tuesday called for investigations into claims that North Korea conducted gas chamber experiments on political prisoners.

In a news conference in Seoul, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, relayed summaries of his interviews with three North Korean defectors who allegedly provided first-person accounts of the gassing of political prisoners beginning in the 1970s and continuing until 2002.

In a 1979 experiment, toxic gas was infused into two glass tanks each containing a political prisoner, Cooper quoted a North Korean defector as saying. The tanks were hooked up with an audio system to scientists monitoring the experiment.

One died in 2½ hours and the other in 3½ hours, the unidentified defector was quoted as saying.

Cooper also cited a North Korean chemist who worked in a team of scientists who tested a variety of gasses on animals and transferred the data to another group

of experts who were experimenting with human guinea pigs.

There was no way to independently confirm these allegations, which began surfacing early this year among human rights activists.

The three defectors were not available for comments.

U.S. officials believe North Korea has chemical and biological weapons programs. But South Korean officials have said they could not confirm the gassing allegations.

North Korea has condemned the claims as "cheap U.S. propaganda."

## Survey: Groping common on Tokyo trains

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Nearly 64 percent of Japanese women in their 20s and 30s participating in a survey said they've been groped on trains, subways or at transit stations in Tokyo, according to a news report Tuesday.

Groping has long been a problem on Tokyo's crowded commuter trains and subways, particularly during rush hour.

In recent years "women only" cars have been used in December, when trains are often packed with drunken male office workers on their way home from company parties.

Gropers can be imprisoned for up to seven years or fined up to \$485. But few victims report such crimes, either because they are ashamed or because they think they won't be taken seriously.

The survey by the Tokyo metropolitan government and railway operator JR East showed that in most cases women fled or tried to stop the groping with a rebuke, a slap, or by covering themselves with a bag. Some unable to act simply endured the unwanted fondling, the national Yomiuri newspaper reported Tuesday.

Asked how officials could stop the groping, a majority of women polled favored dividing train cars by gender, according to the paper.

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### Cruise Inn Now Open Friday and Saturday Nights

Thanks to your requests, we're now open 1900 to 2400 Friday and Saturday nights! Stop by and see what's cooking!

### CPO "Right Hand Man" Social Hour November 30 from 1730 to 1930

Enjoy free hors d'oeuvres at this relaxing event.

### National Mousse Day November 30

Enjoy free chocolate or strawberry mousse with each dining room purchase of \$7 or more!

## Club Takemiya 246-8075

### Thanksgiving Day Buffet

November 25 from 1500 - 2100

Enjoy all of your Thanksgiving favorites including roast turkey and more amidst the soothing sounds of the Yokosuka Jazz Band for only \$12.95 adult and \$6.95 child 12 years of age or older.

### Yokosuka Jazz Band November 25 and 27

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## Seaside Club 243-3379

### Thanksgiving Buffet

November 25 from 1100 to 2100

Enjoy our mouthwatering buffet including roast Tom turkey and the trimmings. \$13.95 adult, \$6.95 child 8 to 11 years old and \$4.95 for child 4 to 7 years old.

### Military Family Appreciation Week

Now through November 27 from 1700 to 2100

Bring your family for dinner and receive a 15 percent discount off your entire meal tab.

### Couples' Night

November 28 from 1700 to 2100

Take your special someone to dinner and both of you receive a free non-alcoholic beverage and a special dessert.

## Club Alliance 243-5951

### Thanksgiving Day

November 25 from 1700 to 2100 at Italian Gardens

Celebrate the holiday with a delicious two-for-one lasagna dinner special.

### Military Family Appreciation Week

Now thru November 28 from 1700 to 2100 at Italian Gardens

Let us show you how much you are appreciated by receiving a complimentary dessert of the month with your dinner meal.

### Latin Explosion with DJ Martha

Thursdays from 2000 to 2400  
First Floor

### Chef's Choice Night

Fridays from 1700 to 1900  
Upper Deck Sports Bar



## Officers' Club 243-5002

### Thanksgiving Day

November 25

Celebrate with us and enjoy our All-you-Can-Eat traditional Thanksgiving meal.

### Prime Rib Buffet

Saturdays

### Pasta Night Buffet

Wednesdays

## Negishi Club 242-4151

### Prime Rib Night

Saturdays

### Thanksgiving Holiday Breakfast

November 25 from 0900 - 1100

Holiday Buffet from 1200 - 2000

Celebrate with mouthwatering roast Tom turkey and all the trimmings for only \$11.95 adult and \$5.95 child.

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## IN THE STATES

## Deer stand killings stun suspect's relatives



Sang Yang, the brother of Chai Yang — a St. Paul, Minn., man jailed in the fatal shootings of five hunters — waits Monday in Hayward, Wis., to visit Chai at the Sawyer County Jail.

BY ROBERT IMRIE  
The Associated Press

HAYWARD, Wis. — Relatives of a man being held in the deadly shooting of six deer hunters say they are just as stunned and bewildered by the incident as authorities investigating the case.

Thick clouds prevented Chai Yang from any contact with family members during a brief visit Monday at the jail. They spoke via telephone, mixing English with the native language of Hmong immigrants from Laos. "I still don't believe it," the suspect's brother, Sang Yang, said. "He is one of the nicest persons. ... Maybe something provoked him or something."

Charges had not been filed against 36-year-old Chai Yang, of St. Paul, Minn., as of Tuesday morning.

Yang is accused of opening fire on several hunters Sunday with a semiautomatic assault rifle. Five people were killed and a sixth died Monday; two others were wounded.

"I just don't think any of this makes sense," Sawyer County Sheriff James Meier said.

## Death toll rises to six in hunting attack

Meier told reporters a dispute over Yang's use of a tree stand on private property preceded the gunfire. Killed were Robert Croteau, 42, his son Joey, 20, Al Laski, 43; Mark Roidt, 28; and Jessica Willers, 27. Denny Drew, 55, died Monday at St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield, his family announced. Willers' father, Terry Willers, remained hospitalized Tuesday in fair condition, while the other wounded hunter was released late Monday or early Tuesday.

Officials said the victims were part of a group of 14 or 15 who made their opening-weekend trip to Robert Croteau's 400-acre property on a normal tradition.

When two or three hunters spotted a man in their hunting platform in a tree on Croteau's land, one of the men approached the intruder and asked him to leave.

"The suspect got down from the deer stand, walked 40 yards, fiddled with his rifle. He took the scope off his rifle, he turned and he opened fire on the group," Meier said.

One of the men called for help on his radio, but it was too late. The gunman fired again, hitting the people who had just arrived on all-terrain vehicles, authorities said.

He was "chasing after them and killing them," Deputy Tim Zeigle said. "He hunted them down."

It is unclear whether anyone returned fire. The members of the hunting party had the only one gun among them. Someone in the group wrote down the suspect's hunting license number.

Investigators said Yang was cooperating.

Some Hmong leaders questioned whether racial differences may have figured in the shootings; authorities have not determined a motive.

Sang Yang said his family was devastated, and that his brother has lived in the United States for more than 20 years and is a U.S. Army veteran.

## Texas mother charged with daughter's death

BY LISA FALKENBERG  
The Associated Press

PLANO, Texas — With a calm, dispassionate voice and a hymn playing in the background, Dena Schlosser confessed to the unthinkable, telling a 911 operator she'd cut off the arms of her baby girl.

The woman was sitting in her living room covered with blood when police arrived Monday. Her nearly 11-month-old daughter lay fatally injured in a crib in a bedroom of the family's apartment in Plano.

The child died shortly afterward at a hospital.

Police have charged the 35-year-old mother with capital murder, but declined to reveal where she is being held.

Schlosser, who had a history of postpartum depression, had been investigated on child neglect allegations earlier this year, but Texas Child Protective Services had recently closed a seven-month investigation, concluding that Schlosser did not pose a risk to her children. Neighbors said she seemed to be a loving, attentive mother.

"There were never any indications of violence with this family," agency spokeswoman Marissa Gonzales said, describing the children as healthy and happy.

But, on Monday, authorities discovered a grisly scene after the child's father called a day-care center and asked staffers to check on his wife and daughter.

Day-care workers called 911 after talking to the mother; an operator then called Schlosser.

Asked if there was an emergency, Schlosser calmly responded "Yes," according to 911 tapes released by police.

"Exactly what happened?" the operator asked.

"I cut her arms off," Schlosser replied, as the hymn "He Touches Me" played in the background. "You cut her arms off?" he repeated.

"Uh huh," she answered.

It was not immediately clear what instrument was used to sever the baby's arms or why the child's father called the day-care center.

The name of the baby was not released. Authorities said the two older daughters in the family, ages 6 and 9, were at school when police arrived, and that their father was at work.

No answer the door Monday night at the family's apartment in suburban Dallas. Children's bicycles rested near the entrance along with angel garden statues.

Neighbors said Schlosser took her children swimming in the summer, had picnics in the courtyard and walked her baby around the complex the same time each afternoon.

Schlosser, 43, said she saw Schlosser making her rounds with the stroller on Sunday. Two days earlier, she saw Schlosser waiting with the baby outside the school her two other daughters attend.

"She didn't give off like she was in a distant world or didn't care about the baby," Livingston said.

Livingston's husband, Brad, added: "To see her with the girls, you would just think she was a great mother."

## Rather to quit as CBS news anchor

BY DAVID BAUDER  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Dan Rather, whose nearly 24-year tenure as anchor of the "CBS Evening News" was clouded by a recent questionable report on President Bush's National Guard service, said Tuesday he will step down in March.

Rather said his last broadcast as anchor would be March 9, the 24th anniversary of when he assumed the position from Walter Cronkite.

The 73-year-old newsman said he will continue to work for CBS, as a correspondent for both editions of "60 Minutes."

"I have always been and remain a hard news investigative reporter at heart," he said in a statement. "I now look forward to pouring my heart into that kind of reporting full time."

He made no mention of the National Guard story in announcing the change, saying he had agreed with CBS executives last summer to leave sometime after the Nov. 2 election. But he was forced to fight for his professional life after anchoring a September "60 Minutes Wednesday" story about Bush's service that turned out to be based on allegedly forged documents.

Rather said he had been CBS News for more than four decades and made his name as a reporter covering the Nixon White House and the Vietnam War. "He has been an eyewitness to the most important events for more than 40 years and played a crucial role in keeping the American public informed about those events and their larger significance," CBS Chairman Leslie Moonves said.

## Clues sought in Houston jet crash

HOUSTON — A private jet en route to Houston to pick up President Bush's father for a conference was hundreds of feet lower than it should have been when it hit a light pole and crashed, but federal investigators say it's too early to say what caused the wreck that killed three crew members.

The Gulfstream G-1159A plane went down early Monday about 3½ miles south of a runway at Hobby Airport, officials said. The area was covered in thick fog at the time.

Mark Rosenker, vice chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said the light pole clipped by the jet was 120 feet high and the normal altitude for the plane at that point from the runway would have been 1,000 feet.

Rosenker said the agency's 15-person investigation team would examine "a number of factors," including the condition of the aircraft, the weather and the history of the flight crew. He said standard toxicology tests would be performed on the bodies of the two male pilots and one female flight attendant who died in the crash.

From The Associated Press

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# U2 plays surprise NYC show

BY SAM DOLNICK

The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — With the bright lights of lower Manhattan shining on the stage, the band U2 played a surprise outdoor concert in a waterfront park beneath the Brooklyn Bridge.

Although the MTV-organized show hadn't been publicly announced or advertised, thousands lined up Monday at the Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, a riverside park between the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges and across from the New York skyline.

Most people said they heard about the show through word-of-mouth or postings on U2 fans' Web sites.

The concert was for an MTV special

called "mtvJAMMED: U2," set to air Dec. 10.

Led by frontman Bono, U2 played songs from its new album, "How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb." Although the album wasn't scheduled to be released until Tuesday, many fans had already downloaded the songs and sang along with the choruses.

Deb Pruitt, 47, left her home in Culpeper, Va., at 4 a.m. to see the concert. She met her daughter, Melissa, who was flown in from Los Angeles after winning a U2 raffle.

"It's totally worth it not to sleep at all and drive eight hours to get here," said Deb Pruitt. "We're big fans."

Before the concert, U2 spent the day playing on the back of a flatbed truck that wound through city streets as a film crew shot the band for a new video.

# Grilled cheese goes for \$28K on eBay

The Associated Press

**HOLLYWOOD, Fla.** — A woman who said her 10-year-old girl grilled cheese sandwich bore the image of the Virgin Mary will be getting a lot more bread after the item sold for \$28,000 on eBay.

GoldenPalace.com, an online casino, confirmed that it placed the winning bid, and company executives said they were willing to spend "as much as it took" to own the 10-year-old half-sandwich with a bite out of it.

"It's a part of pop culture that's immediately and widely recognizable," spokeswoman Monty Kerr told The Miami Herald.

Photos posted on eBay show what can be viewed as a woman's face emblazoned on the sandwich, a bite taken out of one end. Bidding closed Monday.

In a statement, GoldenPalace.com CEO Richard Rowe said he planned to use the sandwich to raise money for charity.

Kerr and Steve Baker, CEO of GoldenPalace's management company, Cyberworld Group, flew to south Florida on Monday to make arrangements for a sandwich handover from its owner, Diana Dwyer.

"I would like all people to know that I do believe that this is the Virgin Mary, Mother of God," Dwyer said in the casino's statement.

The online auction site initially pulled the sale, saying it didn't post joke items. The page was restored after the company was convinced that Dwyer would deliver on the bid, said eBay spokesman Hami Dury.

Dwyer said she took a bite after making the sandwich 10 years ago and saw a face staring back at her. She put the sandwich in a clear plastic box with cotton balls and kept it on her night stand.

She said the sandwich has never sprouted a spore of mold.



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## FACES

## He'll play only at home

Dennis Rodman is playing basketball again in a bid to return to the NBA, but for now he's not venturing far from his California home.

Rodman's debut with the Orange County Crush of the American Basketball Association begins next month. But his contract is only for home games.

Rodman, 43, "doesn't want to deal with all the hoopla that comes along with being Dennis Rodman when he travels," said his publicist, Barr.

Still, the seven-time rebounding champion will leave home for some things: At the moment he's in Houston shooting a television commercial to be aired during the Super Bowl, Barr said.

The Crush has its first game Sunday but Rodman won't even start practice for another week to 10 days. The first home game is Dec. 9.

## Motherhood's the prize

Diana Ross looked every inch the diva as she pulled up to Munch College in St. Paul, Minn., in a black stretch limo and got out wrapped in a thick fur coat and wearing dark sunglasses.

Striding across a specially rented red carpet leading to the school door, Ross beamed as she accepted a bouquet of white roses and signed record albums held out for her autograph.

Ross

But inside the small music conservatory, where a new full scholarship was named in her honor Saturday, Ross told an audience of more than 100 students that it's not divadom that defines her — it's motherhood.

"I'm more a mom than I am a celebrity, even though I know you know me as a celebrity. I'm a mother first," she said.

## Sidekick signs deal

Robin Quivers, shock jock Howard Stern's longtime sidekick, is making a solo move to toward television.

Quivers has signed a deal with Sony Pictures Television to develop a syndicated talk show for daytime TV, the company announced Monday.

The potential series could debut by fall 2005. Quivers will continue her work on Stern's radio show while developing her TV show, Sony said.

There was no indication whether she planned to remain with Stern if her show gets a green light. A call to her manager in New York was not immediately returned Monday.

Quivers, a former nurse in the Air Force who achieved the rank of captain, began her radio career in Washington, D.C., in 1980 and teamed with Stern the next year.

In October, Stern announced a deal with Sirius Satellite Radio to move his program in January 2006 from traditional broadcasting to satellite distribution — and away from regulation.

From The Associated Press

# TOBY KEITH

## Let's talk about him — the Oklahoma boy

BY JULIE E. BISBEE  
The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Toby Keith didn't have to go to Nashville to become a country music superstar. Nashville came to Oklahoma.

Keith — who recently won two American Music Awards — has never strayed too far from his Sooner State roots, working long days in oil fields, playing semiprofessional football and raising racehorses.

"Most artists moved to Nashville," Keith said recently, lounging on a leather couch in his tour bus. "I never did have an address there. I was there for one day and never felt the need for more."

Instead of traveling to the Tennessee country music mecca, he honed his craft in the whiskey halls and bars of the Southwest for nearly a decade.

Keith, whose hits include "I Wanna Talk

**"Most artists moved  
to Nashville.**

*I never did have an  
address there.*

*I was there for one day  
and never felt the  
need for more."*

Toby Keith

About Me" and "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)," began playing guitar at age 8 after receiving one for Christmas. Later, he toured with his band Easy Money — in between playing semipro football for the Oklahoma Drillers and then a short stint with the Oklahoma Outlaws.

When the Outlaws failed and his football career was finally over, Keith put his energy into his music.

He toured 51 weeks a year, hitting honky-tonks and music halls from Oklahoma to Texas to Colorado.

"It was the only way we could make enough money," he said.

"Nothing ain't worth having if it's not worth fighting for. I was only going to do it for 10 years and it was getting pretty close."

But before he could quit and head back to the oil fields of Oklahoma, he got a deal with Mercury Records.

"They came to me," he says with a smirk. Keith put out three albums with Mercury before switching to DreamWorks, which allowed him the freedom to record the witty, occasionally redneck lyrics that have become anthems for country fans and non-fans alike.

Keith doesn't mince words when describing Nashville and the industry he says has reluctantly embraced him. Despite nearly two dozen country award nominations, he's only taken home a handful.

In 2003, the Academy of Country Music named him Entertainer of the Year — but he wasn't there to pick it up. Thinking his chances were slim, he left the ceremony to work on a song with Willie Nelson.

"The awards are kind of like the All-Star game," Keith said.

"You take your turn at bat, smile and give everybody the finger and leave."

That's Keith for you — honest and blunt. That grit translates into his drinking anthems, his ballads and his collection of post-Sept. 11, 2001, patriotic songs.

Keith has written nearly all the songs he's recorded and says he writes when he gets the inspiration.

"I'll do it for five minutes here, or I'll be thinking about while I'm in the shower," Keith said. "I never could write by appointment."

Straightforward lyrics and edgy guitar riffs have given him staying power.

"It was important everybody speak their mind," Keith said. "But if you're going to speak up, at least have something to say."

Recently, Keith's been talking about a lot more than music in his home state.

As a horseman, he championed a proposal recently approved by bars that expands casino-like gambling to the state's struggling horse-racing tracks. Keith also stumped for a measure to create a lottery to fund public education.

"Everybody needs to try to make a difference, and they have a responsibility to stay up on current events," Keith said. "I can be a difference-maker and I try to."

Standing 6-foot-4 with blonde curls peeking out from his weathered cowboy hat, Keith was frequently seen on the campaign trail this fall. He's supported several Democrats, including Oklahoma's

Democratic Gov. Brad Henry.

"I campaign for my friends, people I can trust," said Keith, who is a registered Democrat in Oklahoma but nonetheless supported President Bush.

"I think Toby is passionate about Oklahoma and truly wants to make the state a better place," Oklahoma's governor said. "Instead of sitting on the sidelines, he's gotten involved in issues he believes are important."

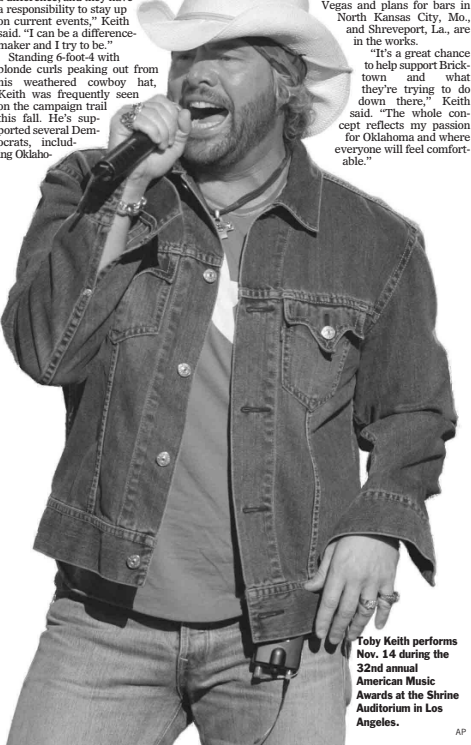
Keith is keeping his wealth in Oklahoma. He and his family live near Norman, home to Keith's beloved University of Oklahoma Sooners.

His latest project is a \$4.7 million restaurant and music hall in Oklahoma City's fledgling entertainment district, Bricktown.

The venture, "Toby Keith's I Love This Bar & Grill," will seat up to 600 people and is expected to be a stopping spot

for touring acts. Keith recently opened a similar bar in Las Vegas and plans for bars in North Kansas City, Mo., and Shreveport, La., are in the works.

"It's a great chance to help support Bricktown and what they're trying to do down there," Keith said. "The whole concept reflects my passion for Oklahoma and where everyone will feel comfortable."



Toby Keith performs Nov. 14 during the 32nd annual American Music Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

AP

# Thanksgiving travel may return to pre-9/11 level

BY BRAD FOSS

The Associated Press

Even with gasoline prices almost a third higher than a year ago, 30.6 million people, or 3 percent more than in 2003, are expected to hit the road for a turkey dinner before the week is over. Another 6.6 million are likely to travel by plane, train or bus, adding up to what will be the busiest Thanksgiving for the transportation sector since 2000, according to a telephone survey conducted for AAA by the Travel Industry Association of America.

Thanksgiving is traditionally the peak business period for the airline industry, but passenger traffic fell sharply after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, accounting for the

overall decline in holiday travel in 2001 and 2002. Auto traffic fell slightly in 2002 but, along with air traffic, has risen steadily since then.

Guillermo Font will drive his Lincoln LS 11600 miles from Debary, Fla., near Daytona Beach, to the nation's capital and back, to spend the holiday with his daughter.

"I like to drive," said Font, a 71-year-old architect, who likes to "fool around" with his GPS system while listening to Latin ballads and classical music on the road. He figures on spending \$300 round trip for gasoline (premium), food and an overnight stay in Lumberton, N.C.

Not everybody has such a calm attitude.

Suzi Einsinger, a health care consultant from Dallas who is flying to Fairfax, Va.,

said she is dreading crowded airports and jammed security checkpoints. But she's doing what she can to minimize stress.

"I'm going to get there early, I'll probably be in the car and preflight screening lines are likely to be longer than usual, industry officials said. The Transportation Security Administration, which oversees passenger screening, has set up a Web site that gives estimated wait times at every airport, <http://waittime.tsa.dhs.gov/index.html>.

The Federal Aviation Administration

said airports, runways and skies will be most crowded on Tuesday and Wednesday, with more than 51,000 flights each day. Spokesman Greg Martin said the nation's aviation system, which has seen a 52 percent spike in delays this year because of bad weather and rising demand, should operate more efficiently than it did a year ago. That's because some of the largest airlines have "de-peaked" their schedules, or smoothed out the flow of traffic more evenly throughout the day, particularly in busy cities such as Chicago, Dallas and Atlanta.

Thanks to intense industry-wide competition stirred up by budget carriers such as Southwest Airlines Co. and JetBlue Airways Corp., leisure fares are 19 percent below year ago levels on average, according to New York-based Harrell Associates.

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chainsaws  
Nov 26-28

**25% OFF**  
all Soldier  
Bear Toys  
Nov 26-28

*Here's  
a little  
Holiday  
Magic!*



## Concessions

Custom Tokyo  
Thanksgiving sale  
Nov 26-30  
**20% OFF** selected items

Car Care Center  
Now - Dec 30  
Oil Change **\$19.95**

YCC Market Place  
Nov 22 - Dec 1  
Silver Jewelry  
Nov 22 - Dec 5  
Chinese Giftware

## Shoppettes

## East Shoppette

### Looking for a holiday gift?

Get a video gift card for 5 free rentals at any of your yokota shoppettees.

### Foster & Becks Beer & Red Bull tasting

Nov 26 1700-2000  
T-shirt giveaway  
while supplies last

Get instant  
savings  
with instant  
rebates!

Look for these tags  
for instant savings  
on items throughout  
the store!



## Happy Holidays to All from the AAFES Yokota Bakery

Be on the lookout for our Christmas cakes at your nearest shoppette. Let us do your baking for you. Order your special holiday cakes early! Don't forget to order your pumpkin, apple and pecan pies through your nearest shoppette Bldg 4085 Phone #225-3752

## Specials for 26-28 November ONLY

1. Chicken Whopper Junior Value Meal only \$2.99
2. 99¢ Whopper Juniors
3. Kids Hamburger Meal 99¢

**Busy shopping? Let Burger King do the cooking!**



Limited to stock on hand.  
No Layaways/layaway adjustments

## DyDo Drinco Campaign

Look for the "BINGO!" tab,  
and win a digital camera  
Look for the "BINGO!" sticker,  
on top of the Dydo can drinks

See poster for details. Redemption deadlines, Nov 1 - Nov 30, 2004



FREE half dozen biscuits with  
purchase of 8, 12 or 16 piece box  
at regular menu price Exp. Dec 4

FREE 2-piece dinner with purchase  
of 3-piece dinner & 2 medium drinks  
at regular menu price Exp. Dec 4

FREE medium drink with purchase  
of 3 or 4 piece dinner at regular  
menu price Exp. Dec 4



Main Store  
0800-2100 daily  
02N 227-7119  
Concessions  
Nov 26 Sat 1000-2000  
Sun 1000-1800

Food Court  
1000-2100 daily  
Charley's Steakery  
Mon thru Fri 0800-2100  
Sat & Sun 0800-2100  
Cinnabon  
0800 - 2100 daily

You Save  
an average of  
**21-39%**  
when you shop  
at AAFES!



**Super  
After  
Thanksgiving  
Sale  
Nov. 26**

**Open  
Thanksgiving Day  
See Wed Nov 24 ad for  
the great deals!!**

# Yokota BX Friday Only!

**After  
Thanksgiving  
November 26  
Shop early!  
We open at 7 a.m.**

**First two hours only!**  
Get a coupon good for 10% off  
any one item up to \$500



When you check out,  
you'll get an additional  
coupon good for 10% off  
any one item up to \$500 that  
you can use on Sunday, November 28!  
Maximum value \$50!

**Also the first 100 customer in the door  
get a Free \$20 aafes gift card! Limit one per family**



**JVC® 27" NTSC Color TV**  
#AN27530

**\$169**  
Special buy  
Limited quantities  
Limit one per customer



**JVC® DVD Progressive  
and HiFi VCR Combo Deck**  
#HRKVC29UJ

**\$79** Reg. \$129  
You save \$50



**\$19.99** Special buy  
Limited quantities  
Limit one per customer  
**COBY® DVD Player**  
#DVB207

**Sale \$79.00**

Original \$189.00  
Limited quantities.  
Limit one per customer



**COBY® Portable 5.6"  
DVD Player** TFDVD-5600

**Sale \$99.00**

Original \$329.00  
Limited quantities.  
Limit one per customer



**COBY® Portable 7"  
DVD Player** TFDVD-7500

**Sale \$189.00**

Original \$389.00  
Limited quantities.  
Limit one per customer



**Canon Digital Camera  
4 Mega Pixel Power shot** A80

**Sale \$199.00**

Original \$569.00  
Limited quantities.  
Limit one per customer



**Canon Digital Camera  
5 Mega Pixel Power shot** \$50

**Sale \$249.00**

Original \$779.00  
Limited quantities.  
Limit one per customer



**Canon Digital Camera  
5 Mega Pixel Power shot** 65

**Take an additional  
50% off  
clearance clothing  
One day only**

**Men's Nike  
athletic clothing  
25% off**

**Selected Pearls  
20% off**

**First time... Watch Trunk  
show Movado, Coach,  
Tommy, ESQ and Concord  
take 30% off MSRP  
exclusively at Yokota BX**



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POWER  
2004

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**We save you money...  
everyday!**

## YOUR MONEY

# E-efficient shoppers are buying gifts online

BY VERNE KOPTOFF

San Francisco Chronicle

When Karen Massa shops for Christmas, she does so in front of a computer rather than at the mall. E-commerce has freed her from fighting the crowds and lugging gifts to Virginia because she has them shipped ahead to her mother's house.

Massa's shopping preference is hardly an anomaly these days. Legions of consumers will turn to the Internet this year, spending more than ever.

"For the last two years, I've done almost all my shopping online," said Massa, West Coast recruiting manager for a San Francisco law office. "It's increased every year."

Analysts expect e-commerce to grow substantially by this holiday season. But they don't anticipate the extraordinary rates of some past years, because of the industry's maturity and tight budgets in many U.S. households, according to Forrester Research.

Online sales between Thanksgiving and Christmas are expected to grow to \$13.2 billion, Forrester predicts. That's down from 31 percent growth in the preceding holiday season.

Companies are nevertheless enthusiastic. Most prominent retailers have overcome their early missteps on the Web and become profitable.

The kinds of products that shoppers buy online have gradually expanded since the early days of e-commerce, when consumer electronics and computer hard-

ware dominated.

Last year, apparel vaulted to the top category in terms of dollars spent, according to the holiday eSpending Report, compiled by Goldman Sachs, Nielsen/NRatings and Harris Interactive. Clothes have gone from being a problem for some retailers because of the high cost of warehousing and shipping to a major source of sales. In a sign of the category's ascendancy, Sears.com started selling clothes for the first time this year.

Online sales between Thanksgiving and Christmas are expected to grow 20 percent to \$13.2 billion. That's down from 31 percent growth in the preceding holiday season.

Others simply do their research online to compare prices before going to a bricks-and-mortar retailer.

Free shipping has become a staple of online shopping over the years. More recently, Web sites have given the bonus only to shoppers who spend over a certain amount, such as Amazon.com, where the minimum is \$25, with some exceptions.

Lauren Freedman, president for the E-tailing Group, a Chicago e-commerce re-

search firm, said it is too soon to know how widespread the free shipping offers will be this year.

She said that if they do come, they will probably kick in after Thanksgiving.

The same goes with product discounts, another way Internet retailers lure customers.

However, Freedman noted that there is some indication retailers are more selective this year than in the past.

Many merchants, like Macys.com and FTD.com, are offering reduced prices that are announced only to registered users by e-mail and for only a few days. If the shopping season starts slowly, however, retailers could be forced to cut prices more publicly, Freedman said.

The spread of broadband to about half of all Internet connections in the United States is helping change the face of online shop-



Paschal Brown, right, and his wife, Virginia, load their car after shopping in Altam, Ill., on Wednesday. More Americans are expected to skip the crowded malls this holiday season and visit their favorite stores on the Internet.

AP

ping. Shoppers with broadband shop more frequently online and spend more.

Some online retailers are reacting by offering more audio and video that would otherwise be too cumbersome for visitors to download through dial-up connections.

Most notably, last week, Amazon.com's home page started offering five short films starring well-known Hollywood actors. While not traditional advertising, the films include products that viewers can buy during the closing credits.

Online shoppers appear to be procrastinating more each year. The peak in sales keeps getting later, according to a study by Atlas DMT, an advertising technology firm.

Three years ago, online shopping peaked around Dec. 1. Last year, the busiest day was Dec. 15.

## MONDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES				
High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg
10,733.1	9,565.09	Dow Jones Industrial	10,480.42	+12.51
3,631.53	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,609.24	+1.51
331.12	242.26	Dow Jones Utilities	330.58	+5.79
7,042.22	5,922.45	NYSE Composite	6,979.79	+3.60
1,153.83	1,064.83	AMEX	1,097.40	+2.59
1,128.46	1,031.20	NASDAQ	1,085.12	+2.89
538.21	452.26	S&P MidCap	531.86	+4.75
67.89	515.59	Russell 2000	621.52	+11.59
11,664.82	10,632.28	DJ Wilshire 5000	11,551.32	+4.62

NYSE					AMEX					NASDAQ				
Most Active (\$1 or more)					Most Active (\$1 or more)					Most Active (\$1 or more)				
Name	Vol	Open	High	Chg	Name	Vol	Open	High	Chg	Name	Vol	Open	High	Chg
Placer	494250	3.98	4.00	0.02	Nasdaq100	783831	39.05	+37	Microsoft	294243	55.97	+8.00		
Lifetech	249720	27.07	26.16	-0.91	SPOR	383844	17.08	+0.01	Siemens	211318	26.66	-0.21		
MetLife	235350	36.00	36.00	0.00	SPY	383844	17.08	+0.01	Microsoft	294243	55.97	+8.00		
MetLife	151553	36.00	36.00	0.00	Shimadzu	10434	10.28	-0.01	AppleC	45580	12.35	+0.18		
MetLife	151553	36.00	36.00	0.00	Oil Shale	8237	30.40	+0.00	Google	29124	29.12	+0.04		
KongHe	149877	3.64	-1.86	-0.50	Shimadzu	64961	10.28	+0.00	AppleC	45580	12.38	-0.07		
Placer	147441	4.15	+0.02	SP Sng	379199	36.76	+0.28	Amazon	26570	21.00	-0.11			
MetLife	147441	36.00	36.00	0.00	BEH&N	379199	36.76	+0.28	Siemens	211318	26.66	-0.21		
Pharmacia	134875	37.55	+0.13	Shimadzu	31440	10.15	+0.00	MSU	105	10.00	3.64	+0.02		
MetLife	133556	36.00	36.00	0.00	Oil Shale	8237	30.40	+0.00	Siemens	211318	26.66	-0.21		

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS				
Name	High	Low	Open	Close
Advanced Technology	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Boeing	40.18	39.46	39.46	+0.72
Lockheed Martin	40.18	39.46	39.46	+0.83
General Dynamics	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Raytheon	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Northrop Grumman	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Boeing	40.18	39.46	39.46	+0.72
Lockheed Martin	40.18	39.46	39.46	+0.83
General Dynamics	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Raytheon	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Northrop Grumman	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Boeing	40.18	39.46	39.46	+0.72
Lockheed Martin	40.18	39.46	39.46	+0.83
General Dynamics	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Raytheon	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83
Northrop Grumman	30.18	29.46	29.46	+0.83

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS				
Name	High	Low	Open	Close
Fidelity Investor Growth	37.60	37.40	37.40	+0.20
Fidelity International	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20
Fidelity Divd Growth	28.34	28.14	28.14	+0.20

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese Yen (Nov. 24)	102.00
South Korean Won (Nov. 23)	1,036.00
Euro (Nov. 23)	\$1.3907
Commercial rates	
British Pound (Nov. 23)	\$1.5770
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3600
Canada (Dollar)	\$0.6185
Denmark (Krone)	\$0.1800
Egypt (Pound)	0.2100
Euro	\$1.3907
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.7750
Hungary (Forint)	166.00
Israel (Shekel)	3.4800
Japan (Yen)	102.00
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2900
New Korea (Won)	1,036.00
Philippines (Peso)	0.0625
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	0.2460
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3600
Switzerland (Franc)	0.7100
Thailand (Baht)	0.0250
Turkey (Lira)	1,428.5714

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance or the U.S. South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany) check your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates for one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-euro and the euro, which is represented in euros-to-dollar.)

PRECIOUS METALS				
Name	High	Low	Open	Close
Gold	544.80	544.80	544.80	544.80
Silver	57.56	57.56	57.56	57.56

INTEREST RATES				
Name	High	Low	Open	Close
Prime rate	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Discount rate	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Federal funds market rate	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
3-month bill	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14
3-year Treasury	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America				

## Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

## Deciding what to itemize

Here's a breakdown of top areas that can push you over the standard deduction edge.

- Unreimbursed medical and dental expenses, deductible if they exceed 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income.
- Taxes you paid. Here's where you get to choose between deducting state and local income taxes, or sales tax.
- Mortgage interest on primary and secondary residences.
- Gifts to charity. Now a great time to clean your closets and donate old clothing and furniture to charity. And that extra set of wheels? The last year you can deduct the fair-market value of the car you donate. Starting in 2005, if your car's worth more than \$500, your deduction is limited to the amount the charity actually receives for the car.
- Casualty loss, if it's more than 10 percent of adjusted gross income.
- Other miscellaneous deductions, in excess of 2 percent of adjusted gross income. Looking for work? You can deduct job-hunting fees, even if you didn't get the job. Tax, travel and preparation fees also are deductible.

Keep in mind that political contributions don't count, even if it's an election year.

A word of warning: Consider that more deductions could result in greater scrutiny from the IRS.



## Pesky cell phones

**NY** CENTRAL ISLIP — A 17-year-old girl was sentenced to 21 days in jail for contempt when her cell phone rang after a judge warned everyone in the courtroom to shut off all electronic devices.

Mariela Acevedo was in court when District Court Judge Salvatore Almania issued his warning.

"If you don't know how to shut it off, go outside and introduce it to the heel of your shoe," he said, according to a transcript reported in Newsday.

When Acevedo's phone subsequently sounded, Almania asked the teenager, "Did you think I was playing with you?"

When she told him she thought it had been turned off, the judge sentenced her to 21 days.

## Panhandler hit by truck

**AL** BIRMINGHAM — A truck driver gave a panhandler \$1, then struck and killed the man as he drove his rig away. Police said it was possible the driver didn't know what happened.

Michael Burns, 43, who had no known address, was standing near an interstate ramp and holding a cardboard sign: "Homeless. Need Help. God Bless."

Witnesses and police said a trucker who was stopped for a red light gave a dollar to Burns. As the truck started making a left turn, its trailer knocked Burns down, and two sets of the truck's tires ran over him.

The truck had no identifiable markings, and witnesses weren't able to get a tag number.

Officer Randall Ward said it appears to be an accident.

## Not promoting porn

**KS** SALINA — A man spent a week on the roof of one of two adult bookstores in town to protest a movement to have the stores investigated for obscenity.

Ray Morris, 38, came down from his perch on top of Behind Closed Doors after staying in a tent there for a week.

"I can't stress enough that I am not promoting porn," Morris said. "I'm promoting the idea of choice. Everyone has a right to choose whether they want to enter these stores."

Some local residents are gathering signatures in a petition drive to force a grand jury to investigate whether Behind Closed Doors and another store, Priscilla's, are promoting obscenity by selling sex products.

## Lost purse returned

**WY** CASPER — Two college students returned a lost purse to its owner, not knowing the handbag contained her life savings of \$43,000.

Derek Hepner and Adam Simanton spotted the purse lying in the gutter of a Casper street as they drove past. They stopped to examine the bag, they pulled out a wallet and an Arizona driver's license and immediately took the purse to police.

What they didn't see was an envelope containing \$43,000 in cash that was the owner's life savings, police Sgt. Larry Baker said.

The owner had been traveling through Casper and apparently



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

misplaced her purse during a stop, police said.

The woman phoned Hepner to inform him of a \$200 reward for the two Casper College students. Hepner is studying criminal justice, and Simanton plans to be a lawyer.

## Birthday party death

**NM** LAS CRUCES — A junior at New Mexico State University died after his 21st birthday celebration led to alcohol poisoning, according to the university.

Steven Judd of El Paso, Texas, marked his birthday with other Delta Chi fraternity members at two Las Cruces bars, police Lt. Randy Lara said.

Fraternity members called for help after finding Judd unconscious and not breathing. He died the next day.

Lara said police have no evidence of foul play or hazing.

NMSU has begun an investigation and has informed the national Delta Chi organization of the incident, university spokeswoman Maureen Howard said.

## Shortcut to the mall

**VT** SOUTH BURLINGTON — The city is opening an unpaved shortcut to the University Mall and Dorset Street to help ease traffic congestion during the holiday shopping season.



## Nintendo is back

Shitiana Mathews, 14, right, and her sister Ty Mathews, 10, both of Los Angeles, try out the new Nintendo DS video game system prior to the first sales in North America at EB Games in the Universal CityWalk in Los Angeles.

The unpaved Market Street, an east-west street that connects Dorset Street with Hinesburg Road, will close again after the holidays because it is not in good enough shape to withstand the heavy snowfalling likely required in January, said City Planner Juli Beth Hinds.

Market Street is a key part of South Burlington's envisioned downtown. The city will hire a consultant to conduct a market study to show what type of development would be sustainable in downtown, which is bordered by Dorset Street, Hinesburg Road, Kennedy Drive and Williston Road.

## Missile silos for sale

**MO** WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE — Warnings against digging more than two feet into the ground because of cancer-causing chemicals haven't stopped people from buying 130 of the 150 former missile silo plots the federal government is selling in Missouri.

The Air Force removed the solid-fueled Minuteman II missiles and destroyed the underground silos years ago, but the soil is still contaminated with fuel, asbestos and polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, found in waterproof coatings on the silos and underground fuel storage tanks.

Much of the property is being bought back by the farmers who owned the land before the government took it 40 years ago to install the silos.

Some farmers said they purchased the plots just to ensure that no one else grabbed them.

## Tiger injures owner

**FL** ST. AUGUSTINE — The owner of a wildlife sanctuary was injured by a 350-pound Siberian tiger when the animal was startled by a 14-year-old boy, officials said.

Curt LoGiudice jumped between the tiger and the boy, who was uninjured but knocked to the ground with LoGiudice.

St. Johns County Sheriff's deputies had to shoot the animal twice with stun guns to get it to release LoGiudice, who kept his grip on the tiger's leash and was able to calm it down and take it back to its sanctuary before driving himself to a hospital.

LoGiudice suffered a puncture wound on one eye lid and behind one ear, according to the police report.

## Girl sexually assaulted

**MN** HASTINGS — A man convicted of raping a teenage girl in 1994 has been charged with sexually assaulting a 9-year-old girl after a judge gave him custody of her last month.

Justin P. Farnsworth, 31, was charged with three counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving the daughter of his ex-girlfriend.

The ex-girlfriend, who lived three hours away in Minnesota, agreed last month that Farnsworth could keep the 9-year-old as well as the couple's two younger daughters, court records show. The three girls had lived with him for more than a year.

There is no indication that the younger girls were abused, said Hastings Sgt. Jim Rognotti.



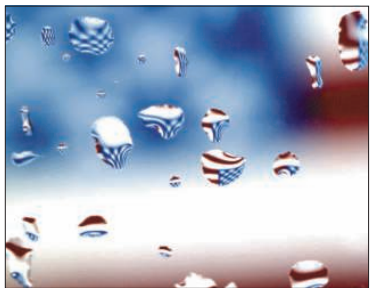
I see you...

A yellow Labrador retriever peers out a hole in the yard fence at a house in Baton Rouge, La.



## Cleaning up

Ubaldo Rubio, left, and Ricardo Hernandez, employees of International Building Services in Atlanta, wash windows at the federal building in Oxford, Miss.



## Patriotic reflections

Water droplets on a window reflect the American flag painted on the side of Artique Frame Palette on Market Street in Hannibal, Mo.





**Dancing colors** Angelie Vasquez, left, and other members of the Milenia Dance Team, from the Fame Performing Arts Center, perform during the second annual Walk Thru The Arts at the Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers, Fla.



**Tall Teddy** Allison Fahrenholz, 4, poses for a photo with Corduroy the bear, a character from a children's book series, during Children's Book Week at the Penfield Public Library in Penfield, N.Y.



**Behind the Brits** Tad Patton, 13, wears a mask with the flag of the United Kingdom during the Mobile International Festival at the Mobile Civic Center in Mobile, Ala.



**Snow won't stop me** An ATV rider makes his way down a snow covered street in Yucaipa, Calif.

## Let's flip for it

**OR** PRAIRIE CITY — A professional blackjack dealer had "Lady Luck" on his side when he won a coin toss to decide who would be the next mayor of this small ranching community.

Jim Hamsher, 39, and former mayor Paul Woodworth, 80, each received 125 votes Nov. 2 as write-in candidates for mayor of Prairie City.

Both candidates agreed to a coin toss to determine the winner.

Hamsher called "heads" as City Recorder Diane Clingan flipped a commemorative rodeo medal with a bucking horse on one side and the year on the other.

The horse landed up, giving Hamsher the victory.

## Holiday free speech

**RI** CRANSTON — The holiday decorations display at City Hall that included more than a dozen plastic pink flamingos in Santa hats didn't break laws governing the separation of church and state, but Mayor Stephen Lafey's regulation of what was put in last winter's exhibit did violate free speech provisions, a federal judge has ruled.

Judge William Smith said he couldn't find any religious purpose in the mayor's decorating efforts, but did find that Lafey's policy of reviewing items for their appropriateness acted to restrain free speech, and therefore violated the First Amendment.

Last winter, Lafey encouraged residents to put seasonal displays he deemed appropriate on City Hall's front lawn. First a menorah went up, then an inflatable snowman and Santa Claus, and after that a Nativity scene appeared. Then, a flock of plastic flamingos showed up, courtesy of the Church of the Pink Flamingo.

## Doctor charged in death

**UT** PROVO — A practitioner of alternative medicine who allegedly discouraged a woman with breast cancer from getting chemotherapy has been charged in her death.

David Eugene Pontius, 61, was charged with unlawful and unprofessional conduct for treating the woman for six months before she died Oct. 20. He faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted on all three counts.

Diane Shepherd allegedly refused chemotherapy and surgery from her physician and instead relied on Pontius' holistic treatment after being diagnosed with cancer in April, according to court documents.

Pontius allegedly determined that Shepherd's cancer developed because of gangrene and mercury poisoning in her teeth. His treatment included chiropractic adjustments and a diet with apricot kernels.

## Politics is for girls

**LA** BATON ROUGE — With his grandmother as an example, 4-year-old David Boulet sees the state's top job as women's work.

Gov. Kathleen Blanco told The

Advocate of Baton Rouge that her daughter, Monique Blanco Boulet, recently asked David what he wants to be when he grows up. He wasn't sure, so Boulet offered some suggestions: Soldier? Firefighter? Policeman? Airplane pilot? None of them excited David. His mother finally asked, "Well, how about governor?"

David looked at her, exasperated.

"Mom," he said, "I'm a boy."

## Asphalt scandal

**IL** CHICAGO — Federal officials charged a city employee with engineering a series of deals in which hundreds of tons of city-owned asphalt were traded for payoffs from private contractors.

In at least three instances, big loads of stolen asphalt were hauled to private jobs by drivers who were being paid by the city through a scandal-plagued program to outsource hauling jobs, federal prosecutors said.

"This conduct was particularly brazen in the sense that it occurred after there was substantial publicity about the City of Chicago and its Hired Truck Program," Assistant U.S. Attorney Patrick Collins told reporters.

Patrick Stillo, 50, the foreman of a city asphalt-spreading crew, was arrested and charged with bribery. He was released on a \$10,000 unsecured bond.

An FBI affidavit accompanying the criminal complaint quoted a truck driver who served as an undercover cooperating witness as saying Stillo authorized him to deliver city-owned asphalt to private contractors.

The contractor often paid the driver \$350 a load with the driver paying Stillo \$150 and keeping the rest, the affidavit quoted the driver as saying.

Some 380 tons of city-owned asphalt were handed over to private contractors in July, August and October in deals Stillo helped arrange, the affidavit said.

## Sport utility vandalism

**CA** LOS ANGELES — A graduate student was convicted of setting fire to dozens of sport utility vehicles in an attack by radical environmentalists that caused \$2.3 million in damage.

William Jensen Cottrell, 24, was found guilty of conspiracy and arson. The jury acquitted him of a more serious charge of attempting to use a destructive device — Molotov cocktails. That charge carried at least 30 years in prison.

He could get at least five years behind bars at sentencing March 12.

Cottrell, a doctoral candidate at the California Institute of Technology, was charged in a 2003 firebombing and vandalism spree at auto dealerships and homes in the San Gabriel Valley east of Los Angeles.

About 125 vehicles were damaged or destroyed. The vandals spray-painted polluter and "smog machine" on some vehicles, along with "ELF," for the radical environmental group Earth Liberation Front.

Stories and photos from wire services

## STARS AND STRIPES

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS E. NELSON, Publisher  
JOHN D. PANASIEWICZ, General Manager, Pacific  
LT. COL. DANIEL R. TODD, USAF, Commander

## News and Editorial

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BOB CLAWSON, Managing Editor  
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Brian Brown, Features  
T.D. Phibbs, Sports

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## So it's OK to be a deserter?

So let me see here. Charles Jenkins deserts his Army post in South Korea in 1965, then goes on to live and work in North Korea, a member of the so-called "Axis of Evil." In 1990 he marries a Japanese woman who was abducted by the North Koreans in 1978 and proceeds to have a family. In 2002, his wife and daughters are allowed to return to her home country of Japan. She tries to persuade him to come to Japan but he is hesitant because he is afraid of being prosecuted by the United States for desertion and, while being reunited with his family in Japan, he expresses the desire to return to North Korea.

He eventually gives in to his wife and comes to Japan. He then turns himself in to Army officials in Japan and is put back in the military and paid his Army salary while awaiting disposition of his case. For approximately two months the family is living in Army housing, being paid Army salary, and being treated like celebrities (the PX was closed one day when I went to shop because they were in there shopping). He then pleads guilty to desertion and is sentenced to 30 days' confinement and a bad conduct discharge. Thirty days?

He is currently serving his sentence while his family is still living in base housing. Then, Japan's chief Cabinet secretary, Hiroyuki Hosoda, makes the following statement: "We'd like to support the family so they can live in this country after Jenkins' custody is completed," referring to the financial assistance that Jenkins, his wife Hitomi Soga, and their two daughters will receive (probably about 300,000 yen a month) to help them live in Japan. This must be the 30/30 rule — 30 days, 30 Ichu-yen bills.

Don't get me wrong, I have compassion for his wife and daughters and the ordeal they have endured, but am I missing something here? I have served honorably for nearly 22 years now. This guy deserted the Army and will be getting more each month than I will be getting once I honorably retire from the military. Something is definitely seriously wrong here.

I say send him back to North Korea and let the family stay in Japan.

Chief Petty Officer Mathew Matunas

Atsugi Naval Air Facility, Japan

## NCOs make key corrections

In response to the Nov. 21 letter "NCOs: Do what's right": I applaud the writer's zeal to do what is right in theater. I have been to Camp Arifan, Kuwait, a few times and apparently uniform corrections are the biggest worry there. Come to Iraq, my friend. Noncommissioned officers here make corrections often. However, those corrections cover topics such as equipment and soldier safety since no one knows when the next ambush will be.

Proper uniform wear is important, but

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when your deployment is in an area where you actually earn your combat pay, more important corrections are done, thus putting nitpicking corrections on the back burner. But when my convoy rolls into Iraq to lavish in the luxuries there, we will try to be in proper uniform. But realize, after numerous ambushes, roadside bombs and several days on the road with no time to remove our grungy wear, the last thing on our minds will be if a pen is protruding from our pockets.

Sgt. Mark D. Tuck Sr.

Taji, Iraq

## Kerry crowd got comeuppance

As a student of politics (and strong George W. Bush supporter), I am extremely pleased with the outcome of the election. President Bush was re-elected despite the heinous behavior of the media and left-wing nuts (i.e. Michael Moore). He received the largest number of votes in American presidential history. He also won by more than 3,500,000 votes despite the daily barrage from the pro-John Kerry media.

The Republicans also added to their majority in both the House and the Senate. Each Bush-bashing October surprise from the Democrats and their willing accomplices in the media was snuffed out by the American people. The people accepted them for what they were, attacks that had no basis in fact. The liberals just don't seem to understand that the vast majority of the American people are not stupid. We can and did see through the phantasies of Sens. Kerry and John Edwards.

Kerry's many years in the Senate exposed him for what he truly is: a diehard, flip-flopping liberal. Although it is hard to believe, Kerry received more liberal rating than Sen. Ted Kennedy. Amazing!

I would like to extend a heartfelt

thanks to Moore, George Soros, Terry McAuliffe, Dan Rafter, Al Franken, The New York Times, James Carville, Bruce Springsteen and, of course, the Dixie Chicks. You were great, guys! Thanks for the help. We couldn't have done it without you.

Mike Appel

Okinawa City, Okinawa

## Military has diverse views

I'm writing in regards to the Nov. 17 letter "Column off mark, out of place." With-  
out getting into politics or the column to whom the writer is referring, I'd like to ask him to stick to his own opinion and refrain from commenting on the "opinions of our troops and their families."

We are a diverse country and a diverse military and as such there is no single "one" opinion of the troops and their families" (other than hoping we all come home safe) and I don't need anyone offering to give "my opinion" for me.

Capt. Joe Macri

Baghdad

## Pro athletes go too far

I am still in shock after watching the ESPN highlights of the fight that took place during the Nov. 19 basketball game between the Pacers and the Pistons. Not only am I appalled at the actions of the players, but also because the ESPN analysts as well as some of the coaches actually condoned the players' behavior. One of the coaches stated that all the players should have gone into the crowd, and then he laughed and joked about the situation.

I believe three distinct actions led to this situation: Ron Artest committing a hard intentional foul on Ben Wallace; Wallace overreacting and shoving Artest; and Artest jumping into the crowd. Stephen Jackson, one of the players, then jumped into the crowd and began beating Stephen A. Smith, an ESPN analyst, stated these were actions that anyone would have done.

I cannot speak for everyone, but if I was making millions of dollars a year, I would have kept to myself. The actions of these players shed light on their true character. They are spoiled, overpaid criminals. The children who were at this game were in tears and probably traumatized by the whole situation. I have witnessed other fights between NBA players, specifically Allen Iverson and Larry Johnson. Both teams got involved in this fight but the crowd did not. As far as I can remember, no one jumped into the crowd and started beating fans.

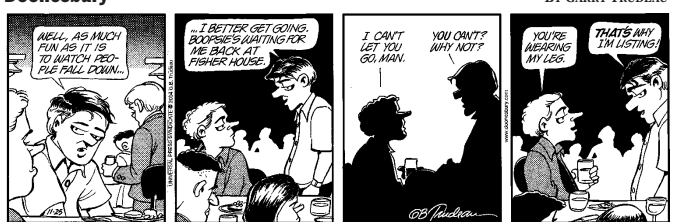
So this is what professional sports is coming to: drug users, drug abusers, assaults and little to no punishment. The killer is that they will still be playing and making millions. Is this what we are fighting for in Iraq?

Staff Sgt. Michael Steele

RAF Lakenheath, England

BY GARRY TREDEAU

## Doonesbury



## OPINION

## Leaving Iraq not as simple as not going in

BY MICHAEL KINSLEY

Los Angeles Times

It is as there ever before been a war that so many people disapproved of but so few wanted to stop? Have the reasons for starting a war ever been so thoroughly discredited without turning into reasons for ending it?

The Vietnam-era anti-war movement had an agenda: Bring the troops home. Or, in two words — suitable for a pocket sign or a T-shirt — “Out now.”

What seems to be today's anti-war position — it was a terrible mistake and it's a terrible mess, but we can't just walk away from it — was actually the pro-war position during Vietnam. In fact, it was close to official government policy for more than half the length of that war.

Today's anti-war cause doesn't even have a movement, to speak of, let alone an agenda. It consists of perhaps 47 percent of the citizenry — the ones who voted for John Kerry — who are in some kind of existential opposition to the war but don't know what they want to do about it.

Meanwhile, U.S. soldiers die by the hundreds and Iraqis by the thousands in a cause these people (and I'm one of them) believe to be a horrible mistake.

Kerry spent months untangling the knots of his Iraq position while tangling new ones even faster. He pounded George W. Bush over the phantom weapons of mass destruction, and he mocked Bush's confusion of Osama bin Laden with Saddam Hussein. Kerry said, famously, that Bush's invasion

of Iraq was “the wrong war in the wrong place at the wrong time.” So was he in favor of ending it? No, his position was that he would try, but not promise, to bring the troops home in four years. Four years! U.S. involvement in World War II lasted 3½.

Bush had a good point when he wondered how, as commander in chief, Kerry could ask American soldiers to die for the wrong war in the wrong place at the wrong time. Of course, that problem does not vindicate Bush's belief that Iraq is the right war in the right etc. etc. etc.

But Bush's apparently sincere belief does relieve him from needing to explain why he doesn't want the war to end now. Kerry's studiously confused position was not, or not just, a political stratagem. It was an accurate reflection of the views of his constituency. Most of them deplore the war, but only a tiny fraction favor an immediate pull-out. Anyone who opposes the war but isn't ready to demand peace needs an answer to the question, “Up on Earth not?”

There are answers, possibly even adequate answers. But none of them shine with the kind of obvious truth that makes the question unnecessary, let alone uninteresting, which is how it is being treated. The answers fall in two categories, each associated with a secretary of state.

The Henry Kissinger answer is, in a word, credibility. A superpower that announces a goal and gives up without achieving it will not be super for long. In the end, President Nixon and Kissinger added five years to the length of Vietnam War, and we lost it anyway. Did that add to our superpower



THE FAYETTEVILLE (N.C.) OBSERVER/AP

Capt. Jon Stewart, commander, Company A, 1st Battalion, 252nd Armor Regiment, gives out a stuffed toy to a kindergarten student at a school in As Sadiyah, Iraq, on Sunday.

credibility? Well, maybe. In the Kissinger world of High Strategy, a reputation for pig-headed stupidity can be almost as valuable as a reputation for wise persistence.

The Colin Powell answer goes by the nickname “Pottery Barn,” referring to the alleged policy of that purveyor of yuppieware that “if you break it, you own it.” In fact, Pottery Barn's breakage policy is much kinder and gentler than that. But it's certainly true that a well-brought-up foreign policy doesn't occupy a country, wreck it and move on like

a rock band checking out of a hotel room. The question is whether at this point we're actually helping to tidy up, or only making a bigger mess.

An American general in Vietnam famously said, “We had to destroy the village to save it.” This has become the definitive expression of the macabre futility of war. Last week, we destroyed an entire city in order to save it (progress), but our capacity to find that sort of thing ironic seems to have become shriveled and harmless.

Michael Kinsley is the Times' editorial and opinion editor.

## Modern-day pilgrim's journey no walk in the park

Twice in the last year and a half, I have been in Plymouth, Mass., where the Pilgrims landed (after they first stopped at Provincetown on the tip of Cape Cod).

Bill Tammes



us are pilgrims.

The idea of pilgrimage did not start with the English Separatists who came to the New World in 1620. (Nor did the idea of setting aside a day to give thanks.) As the Catholic Encyclopedia notes, the concept of pilgrimage has roots tens of thousands of years old in the idea of local deities with limited authority.

Hence, the encyclopedia says, “when some man belonging to a mountain tribe found himself in the plain and was in need of divine help, he made a pilgrimage back to the hills to petition it from his gods.”

To be a pilgrim means to be on a journey, to be searching for a place, a person or even (and maybe especially) for God — something or someone to help make sense of who we are and what we're supposed to be about. To live an unexamined life is never to be a pilgrim.

But pilgrimage can also be more interior in nature, as is the case with someone in my extended family. She has been on a pilgrimage recently back into her childhood to see if she could find the origin of a destructive behavioral pattern she's experienced through

much of her life: When she's enraged, she often simply shuts down emotionally instead of understanding her anger.

Her pilgrimage, aided by a counselor, has led her to various events in her childhood that gave her a deep fear of abandonment. As a result of that fear, she wouldn't risk abandonment but would curl up, shut her eyes and hope everything either goes away or turns out all right.

Because of the discovery she made on her interior pilgrimage, she's now trying to fix things.

We live in what's often called a “therapeutic culture,” in which concepts of evil and sin get truncated into something less scary. In our narcissistic age, the culture encourages us to imagine that to fix ourselves all we need is the right therapy, self-help books, counseling, meditation techniques and, most of all, the right medications. Some combination of those things will allow us to reach the goal of our personal pilgrimage.

And what does the therapeutic culture tell

us that God should be? A personal nirvana, in which all our needs and wants are met.

So when we start a personal pilgrimage, it helps to remember that no matter what the culture says, the true goal is to make us whole (precisely the goal of my family members) so we can be in healthy relationships. The goal is not to find someone or something to blame for why we aren't whole, though it may help to know that, and counseling and medications may be needed along the way.

The religious pedigree of the pilgrimage idea is impressive. Islam requires adherents who are healthy and can afford it to make a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, birthplace of their faith. The Christian Crusades in medieval times were first dreamed up as a way to make the path from Europe to Jerusalem safe for Christian pilgrims.

And Buddhists make pilgrimages to Kapilavastu, Benares and other places connected with Buddha's life.

While many religions are familiar with humans going on pilgrimages to seek the di-

vine, Christianity posits the idea of God making a pilgrimage in search of — and to rescue — humanity through the incarnation of Jesus Christ. One reason this story has such pull on the hearts of so many people is its audacity — describing God as a pilgrim seeking out people.

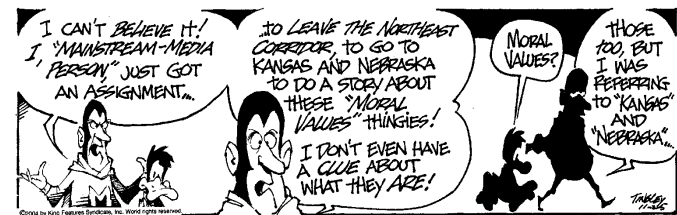
But, of course, the idea of sacred pilgrimage also gets twisted at times. In early Christian history, pilgrimages were meted out as punishment. This disciplinary system sent countless people off on journeys of terrible hardship to make up for their crimes or sins and to find redemption.

However strange and intricate the history of pilgrimage, it is an idea deeply embedded in the human psyche. We sense some emptiness in us or a profound desire to experience what the ancient Celts called “thin places,” where eternity touches time, and we set off on our searches. It's an honorable instinct that deserves our homage at Thanksgiving.

Bill Tammes is a columnist for The Kansas City (Mo.) Star.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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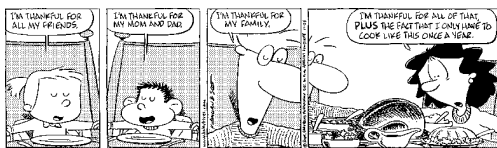
Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



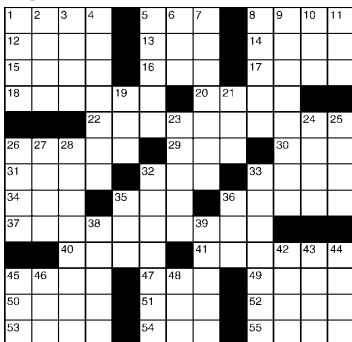
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Hootbeat sound  
5 It's often served au vin  
8 Unescorted  
12 Consort of Zeus  
13 Tulsa sch.  
14 Like some nocturnal birds  
15 Model who wed David Bowie  
16 Featherery accessory  
17 Shaft of light  
18 Blotched critter  
20 Comical Caroline  
22 Not gradually  
26 Kayaks  
29 CSA soldier  
30 Rhoda's mom  
31 "Breaky Heart"  
32 "Krazy —"  
33 Wield scissors  
34 Monk's address  
35 Wonderful, in rappeak  
36 Olympic coasters  
37 Ragtime dance  
40 Cat's comment  
41 Rejoices  
45 Thor's dad  
47 Possess  
49 Exceptional  
50 Hardly muscular  
51 Wade opponent  
52 Always  
53 "I, Claudius" costume

## Down

- 54 Jones' partner  
55 Benefit  
1 Stylish  
2 Tony of golf lore  
3 Word with history or hygiene  
4 Very scared  
5 Computer language  
6 Acapulco gold  
7 Barbershop group?  
8 Serious  
9 Making minor adjustments  
10 Carte lead-in  
11 Workout site  
19 Lettuce variety  
21 Center  
23 Conscription  
24 Falco of "The Sopranos"  
25 Kennel din  
26 Crazy  
27 Beige  
28 Dream prince?  
32 Entry in an index  
33 O.R. strings  
35 — volente  
36 Bagel topper  
38 Nairobi's land  
39 Get more magazines  
42 Popocatepetl flow  
43 Arduous journey  
44 Withered  
45 Make up your mind  
46 Half of 7-Down  
48 Court

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 11-25

## CRYPTOQUIP

M K Z Q T M D D Q M N  
K W M D O R V A P A D V G A D D Y T  
K W A R F Y M T Y P Y T F Z D Y  
A D R A K Y G Z D K M N O A D V  
K Q T O Y F

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: VERY NERVOUS ABOUT GIVING VACCINATIONS, THE YOUNG NURSE GAVE IT HER BEST SHOT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals N

# Have a happy, stress-free holiday

Today is Thanksgiving, the time we pause to consider the blessings for which we are grateful. In many homes across this great nation of ours, turkeys are being stuffed — just as the people who consume them will be later in the day.

But for many individuals, today and the holidays that follow can be an intensely difficult time, triggering feelings of stress, loneliness and loss. If a person is prone to depression, these feelings can be further magnified.

How can anyone feel depressed at this time of year? It's not that far-fetched. People who are separated from their families often feel isolated because they can't celebrate in the traditional way. Families who have lost a loved one during the year often feel the absence especially at this time. Others become depressed because they imagine that everyone else is enjoying a warm, idealized family experience, while they are on

the outside looking in. Even people who enjoy the holidays can find them stressful. This is a time of year when people are stretched for time, energy and money — particularly the latter. They may become embarrassed because they can't celebrate the way they would like to celebrate, or in the style they have in years past.

Some ways to ward off the holiday blues:

- Keep expectations reasonable. Don't take on more activities than you can handle — financially or otherwise.
- Don't overspend. Plan a holiday budget and live within it, regardless of the temptations.

■ Do not run up credit card debt, or January will be like a serious hangover.

■ And speaking of hangovers: Watch your alcohol intake. Remember, although alcohol seems to be a mood elevator, it is actually a depressant. If you have a

problem with alcohol, get whatever support you need to make it through the holidays.

A final thought: If you're feeling down and want an instant "upper," the surest way to accomplish it is to do something nice for someone else. Call someone who lives alone and invite that person to dinner. Better yet, say, "I'm coming to get you, and I'll see that you get safely home." (Some older people don't drive at night, and those who do might prefer not to be behind the wheel after dark.) Give it a try! You'll be glad you did.

We have so much for which to be grateful this Thanksgiving Day. Those of you with a little time to spare, how about showing our gratitude to veterans by visiting a veterans hospital and raising the spirits of those who have served our country? Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

— Love, Abby

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can email to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

## Dear Abby



# A Thanksgiving prayer to share

## Dear Readers:

Today is Thanksgiving. If you know someone who is alone today, please invite him or her to share your Thanksgiving dinner, and make the occasion truly special.

While many of us have a great deal to be thankful for, some of us are less fortunate. We hope all of you are able to find something for which you are grateful, no matter how small. If you can't think of anything, the following prayer may give you some suggestions.

## Thanksgiving Prayer (Author Unknown)

We come to this table today, O Lord, humble and thankful and glad.

We thank Thee first for the great miracle of life, for the exaltation of being human, for the capacity to love.

We thank Thee for joys both great and simple — for wonder, dreams and hope; for the newness of each day; for laughter and song and a merry heart; for compassion waiting within to be

## Annie's Mailbox



kindled; for the forbearance of friends and the smile of a stranger; for the arching of the earth and trees and heavens and the fruit of all three; for the wisdom of the old; for the courage of the young; for the promise of the child; for the strength that comes when needed; for this family united here today.

Of those to whom much is given, much is required. May we and our children remember this, Amen.

**Dear Annie:** Please remind your readers once again to Keep Kids Alive Drive 25. This is a proactive measure to mobilize citizens around the problem of speeding in their neighborhoods. Working with police departments, neighborhood groups, schools, municipal departments, civic groups and families, we hope to create safer streets for pedestrians and motorists alike.

According to the National Highway

Traffic Safety Administration, almost 175,000 pedestrians died on U.S. roadways between 1975 and 2001. Local roads, the streets right in front of most of our homes, are over twice as dangerous as highways per mile driven. Pedestrians are also three times more likely to die when struck by a vehicle traveling 30 mph vs. one traveling at 25 mph.

For the sake of children and adult pedestrians and their families, I ask communities around the country to join this campaign by visiting our Web site at [www.KeepKidsAliveDrive25.org](http://www.KeepKidsAliveDrive25.org).

— Tom Everson, Executive Director

**Dear Tom Everson:** We are pleased once again to remind our readers not to drive over 25 mph when traveling through residential neighborhoods. It's worth those extra few miles per hour to save a life.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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# JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

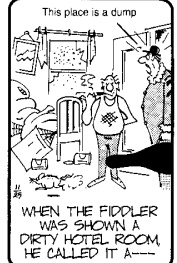
EUQUE	_____
NILEN	_____
VENCOL	_____
JELING	_____

Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Yesterday's Jumbles: PAPER RABBI MODERN DENOTE  
Answer: What she turned into when she got divorced — A NAME "DROPPER"

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

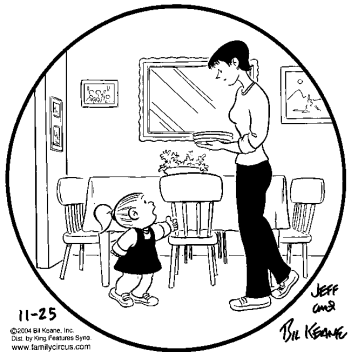
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

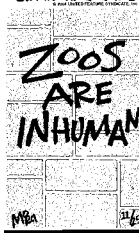
(Answers tomorrow)

## Family Circus



"Will our company and all of us fit at the same dinner table, or will us kids get demoted?"

## GRAFFITI



## Dennis the Menace



## The Far Side

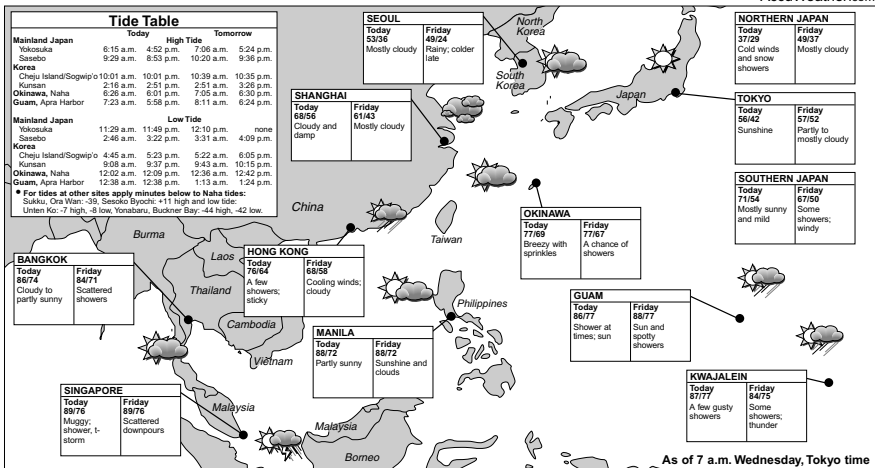


## Non Sequitur



# The Pacific Forecast

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AccuWeather.com



## Extended Forecasts

<b>TOKYO</b> Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 63, low 44. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high 54, low 44.	<b>KADENA</b> Saturday: Showers, high 75, low 63. Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 73, low 61.	<b>SEoul</b> Saturday: Mostly sunny, high 47, low 30. Sunday: Sunny, high 47, low 30.	<b>MANILA</b> Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 86, low 72. Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 86, low 72.	<b>HAGATNA</b> Saturday: Showers, high 88, low 77. Sunday: Showers, high 88, low 79.
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## Tuesday's USA Temperature

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	45/30	Los Angeles	67/47
Amarillo	48/29	Little Rock	61/52
Anchorage	38/30	Louisville	57/52
Ashville	66/53	Miami	83/72
Baltimore	54/48	Milwaukee	50/30
Birmingham	70/63	Nashville	64/57
Bismarck	36/9	New York	55/48
Boise	44/29	Omaha	42/23
Boston	50/42	Orlando	82/64
Brownsville	87/62	Philadelphia	57/49
Buffalo	51/44	Phoenix	62/50
Burlington	52/42	Pittsburgh	57/48
Charleston, SC	78/62	Portland, OR	50/47
Charlotte	67/58	Portland, ME	50/37
Cleveland	54/42	Salt Lake City	42/26
Columbus, OH	56/47	St. Louis	54/40
Duluth	35/14	San Antonio	77/50
El Paso	52/36	San Diego	64/50
Hartford	53/41	San Juan	86/74
Helena	40/25	Tampa	83/68
Indianapolis	57/44	Tulsa	57/37
Jacksonville	80/62	Washington	54/50
Kansas City	51/31	Wichita	50/29

## Thursday, November 25



## U.S. Extended Forecast

A strong cold front will exit the East Coast Thursday, leaving blustery and chilly conditions in its wake. Temperatures will fall throughout the day in New York City and Boston. Flurries will occur across the Appalachians and around the Great Lakes. A few heavier snow showers are possible close to lakes Erie and Ontario. High pressure will provide tranquil weather across the Plains and Midwest. A storm over the Pacific Northwest will cause wind and rain in Seattle and Portland. This storm will push through the Plains and Midwest Friday and Saturday; showers of rain and snow will accompany the system. Generally quiet weather is expected along the East Coast.

## Thursday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	86/74	Iwakuni	65/49
Beijing	31/16	Kadena AB	77/69
Camp Casey	54/39	Kunsan AB	58/46
Chattanooga	56/34	Kwajalein	87/77
Diego Garcia	88/76	Manila	88/72
Hagatna	86/77	Misawa AB	43/29
Hanoi	79/63	Osan	61/44
Hong Kong	76/64	Perth	71/52
Honolulu	84/72	Pusan	62/48

## Thursday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	90/73	Budapest	36/31	Kabul	54/23	Nairobi	78/52
Aden	43/31	Buenos Aires	75/57	Kiev	24/18	New Delhi	77/47
Auckland	60/47	Cairo	73/45	Kuwait	72/49	Oso	39/27
Baghdad	63/40	Cancon	79/67	London	50/42	Paris	48/39
Barbados	85/72	Cape Town	74/55	Madrid	61/43	Rio de Janeiro	79/69
Barcelona	57/48	Geneva	49/40	Mexico City	72/46	Rome	50/40
Berlin	42/36	Istanbul	37/24	Montreal	45/24	St. Petersburg	27/18
Bermuda	76/68	Jerusalem	63/48	Mogadishu	88/73	Singapore	37/24
Brussels	47/38	Johannesburg	85/64	Moscow	22/14	Warsaw	32/29



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# SCOREBOARD

## AFN-TV & Radio

**Thursday**  
**AFN-Sports, 4 a.m.**—College basketball: MVA Invitational first-place game, teams TBD.

**AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.**—College basketball: Great Alaska Shootout, teams TBD.

**AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.**—College basketball: Presson Nit semifinal, Wake Forest vs. MVA Invitational championship teams TBD.

**AFN-Sports, 11:30 a.m.**—College basketball: Presson Nit semifinal, Michigan vs. Wake Forest.

**AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.**—Golf: Grand Slam of Golf round (G&S).

**AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.**—College basketball: Great Alaska Shootout, teams TBD.

**AFN-Sports, 11:30 a.m.**—College basketball: Presson Nit semifinal, Michigan vs. Wake Forest.

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**AFN-Sports, 11:30 a.m.**—College basketball: Presson Nit semifinal, Michigan vs. Wake Forest.

**AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.**—Golf: Grand Slam of Golf round (G&S).

**AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.**—College basketball: Great Alaska Shootout, teams TBD.

Occidental, Calif. (9-1) at Concordia-Morehead (11-0)

Myer, Hardin-Baylor (10-1) at Hardin-Simmons (10-0)

McDonough-La Crosse (7-3) at UNL (10-0)

**Quarterfinals**  
**Saturday, Dec. 4**  
 Wisconsin-La Crosse (10-0) at North Dakota State (10-0)

Occidental-Concordia-Morehead winner vs. Hardin-Baylor

Hardin-Baylor-Hardin-Simmons winner vs. Christopher Newport-Washington

McDonough-La Crosse winner vs. Wheaton, Ill.-Mount Union winner vs. Concordia-Morehead

**College basketball**  
**AP Men's Top 25 ranked**  
**Monday**  
 1. Wake Forest (2-0) beat Wake 99-72. Next: vs. Providence, Wednesday.

2. Kansas (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Joseph's (2-0) beat Illinois-Chicago 60-58. Next: vs. Arkansas-Little Rock, Friday.

3. Georgia Tech (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Syracuse (4-0) did not play. Next: vs. Ball State, Saturday.

4. Illinois (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma State (4-0) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas-Little Rock, Tuesday.

5. Connecticut (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana International, Tuesday.

6. Kentucky (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Duke (2-0) beat Davidson 74-61. Next: vs. North Carolina, Wednesday.

7. Michigan State (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Michigan State (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Wisconsin-Green Bay, Tuesday.

8. North Carolina (1-1) beat Brigham Young 86-50. Next: vs. Stanford, Tuesday.

9. Louisville (1-0) lost to Iowa 76-71. Next: vs. Missouri-Kansas City, Tuesday.

10. Texas Tech (2-0) beat Chattanooga 84-82. Next: vs. No. 12 Louisville, or Iowa, Tuesday.

11. Robert Morris, Wednesday.

12. North Carolina State (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Campbell, Friday.

13. Michigan, Wednesday.

14. Wake Forest (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Alaska-Anchorage, Wednesday.

15. Wake Forest (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. U.S. Santa Barbara, Tuesday.

16. Wake Forest (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne, Tuesday.

17. Baylor (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Utah, Thursday.

18. Wake Forest (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Florida Atlantic, Tuesday.

19. Wake Forest (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa, Wednesday.

20. Memphis (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas State, Tuesday.

**Monday's men's scores**  
**East**  
 Bethune-Cookman 68, Eastern 67

Howard B. Cavanaugh 76, McKeown 61

Indiana 61, Penn St. 67

Maine-Farmington 53, Joseph's 66

Mount St. Mary's 72, Pratt 57

Mountain 106, Point Park 64

North Carolina 74, North Carolina 74

Milliken 87, Illinois Tech 74

Northwestern St., 104, Jamestown 74

Baylor 92, Hillsdale Baptist 58

Colorado St., 76, N. Dakota 61

Eastern Washington 68, Col. 61

Oregon 70, New Mexico 75

San Diego 56, M. M. 100, 105

Wyoming 64, Princeton 59, 67

**EA Sports Midweek Invitational**  
**First Round**  
 Iowa 74, Louisville 71

North Carolina 50, Tennessee 49

Stanford 57, Providence 50

**Paradise Jam**  
 North Carolina 50, Tennessee 49

Stanford 57, Providence 50

**Third Place**  
 Semifinal winners

**AP Women's Top 25 ranked**  
**Monday**  
 1. Tennessee (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Washington, Tuesday.

2. Texas Tech (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Temple, Tuesday.

3. Virginia (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Idaho at Honolulu, Friday.

4. Texas Tech (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 Tennessee, Tuesday.

5. Charleston Southern (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Charleston Southern, Tuesday.

6. North Carolina (2-0) beat Colorado State 69-47. Next: at Southern Cal, Friday.

7. Eastern Washington at Anchorage, Tuesday.

8. Eastern Washington at Anchorage, Tuesday.

9. Baylor (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. South Florida, Wednesday.

10. Baylor (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Mississippi State, Tuesday.

11. Duke (1-0) did not play. Next: vs. Stephen J. Austin at Bahamas, Friday.

12. Ohio State (1-0) beat Rice 65-55. Next: vs. Utah at Honolulu, Friday.

13. Michigan State (2-0) did not play. Next: vs. Utah at Honolulu, Friday.

14. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

15. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

16. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

17. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

18. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

19. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

20. Georgia Tech (2-0) beat Savannah State 61-28. Next: at Rhode Island, Friday.

W. Carolina 73, E. Kentucky 60

Crestline 84, UMKC 54

Iowa St., 76, N. Colorado 36

Michigan Tech 68, Col. 61

North Dakota 76, N. Dakota 61

North Dakota 76, N. Dakota 61

North Dakota 76, N. Dakota 61

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North Dakota 76, N. Dakota 61

4. Meg Mallon \$1,211,350.25

5. Cristie Kerr \$1,189,000.00

6. Annika Sorenstam \$1,093,000.00

7. Karrie Webb \$1,078,000.00

8. Helen Alfredsson \$1,064,000.00

9. Juli Inkster \$1,062,000.00

10. Jennifer L. Kahn \$1,054,000.00

11. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

12. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

13. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

14. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

15. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

16. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

17. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

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35. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

36. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

37. Juli Inkster \$1,054,000.00

## College football

### AP Top 25 schedule

**Thursday, Nov. 25**  
 No. 21 West Virginia at No. 26 Michigan

**Friday, Nov. 26**  
 No. 6 Texas vs. No. 25 Oklahoma A.M.

No. 18 Arizona State at Arizona

No. 1 Southern Cal. at Southern Cal. Dome

No. 8 Georgia vs. Georgia Tech

No. 11 Virginia Tech vs. No. 16 Virginia

No. 17 Boston College vs. Syracuse

No. 24 Utah Tech at Texas Tech

No. 20 UT at Texas Tech

**Division I-AA playoffs**  
**First Round**  
 Jacksonville State (9-2) at Furman (9-2)

West Virginia State (9-2) at Sam Houston State (9-2)

Eastern Washington State (9-2) at Southern Illinois (9-2)

Lafayette (9-3) at Delaware (8-3)

West Hampshire (9-2) at Georgia Southern (9-2)

**Quarterfinals**  
**Saturday, Dec. 4**  
 Eastern Washington State vs. Illinois vs. West Virginia

Northwestern State winner vs. Western Kentucky-Sam Houston State

Northwestern State winner vs. Western Kentucky-Sam Houston State

Northwestern State winner vs. Western Kentucky-Sam Houston State

Northwestern State winner vs. Western Kentucky-Sam Houston State

**Division II playoffs**  
**Saturday, Nov. 27**  
 West Chester (10-7) at St. Cloud State (10-7)

West Missouri State (11-1) at Pittsburg State (12-2)

West Missouri State (11-1) at Pittsburg State (12-2)

West Missouri State (11-1) at Pittsburg State (12-2)

West Missouri State (11-1) at Pittsburg State (12-2)

West Missouri State (11-1) at Pittsburg State (12-2)

West Missouri State (11-1) at Pittsburg State (12-2)

**Division III playoffs**  
**Second Round**  
 Hobart, N.Y. (9-1) at Oswego, N.Y. (8-2)

John F. Kennedy (9-1) at Delaware Valley (11-0)

Christie University (9-1) at Washington State (10-0)

Jefferson, Pa. (11-0) at Mount Union, Ohio (10-0)

College, W.V. (10-1) at Wooster, Ohio (11-0)

## College hockey

### Monday's scores

**EAST**  
 Boston College 5, Holy Cross 0

**MIDWEST**  
 Bemidji 3, Wayne, Mich. 1

**West Coast**  
 Fresno State 7, Santa Clara 7

Idaho 3, Lewis-Clark 5

Montana 6, Montana-Western 4

Utah 7, Western St., Colo. 58

Utah 4, Georgetown 3

**College soccer**  
**Men's Division I tournament**  
**Second Round**  
 Boston U. (10-1) vs. Penn (10-4)

Connecticut (12-7) at Boston College (10-1)

Hofstra (12-9) at Wake Forest (15-5)

North Carolina (12-3) at Wake Forest



## HOME TEAM

A WEEKLY LOOK AT LOCAL SPORTS

# Was better opportunity knocked?

## District has made strides in Okinawa scheduling

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

Memories of the town meeting staged a year ago by parents of Kadena and Kubasaki student-athletes — and the anger those parents vented — are still fresh in Henry Meyer's mind.

The group complained their children weren't being afforded the same competitive opportunities as counterparts in Japan and Korea. Particularly galling, they said, was what some called a "travel ban," which kept teams from leaving the island for in-season competition.

Today, most parents from last year's group have ceased expressing public dissatisfaction, and Meyer, the spokesman for DODDS-Pacific's Okinawa district, believes progress has been made in reaching a compromise.

"We listened to people last year," he said. "We want kids to travel and compete. And we're doing something about it."

Japan and Korea each have 10 DODDS and international schools that compete in regular leagues and are within driving distance of one another. But Okinawa has just two DODDS and two international schools, and off-island travel is prohibitively expensive.

Meyer insists "it was never a travel ban. We're just trying to limit days spent out of school."

Students already miss up to 20 days playing in the three Far East tournament sports plus regular-season play.

"They gain a lot," Meyer said. "That's why we don't mind missing school for these activities. But ... you can't learn the same thing reading a book that you can by spending time in the classroom."

To compensate, the Okinawa district hired Misa Akeno of Ginowan to schedule games in several sports, and other cultural activities, with Japanese schools. That helped shift scheduling responsibilities from the coaches to the district.

"Now," Meyer said, "a coach will always know how many games he'll play, and when."



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

**Kubasaki senior Erin Foote (40) dribbles against the Naha High Bears, one of many Japanese teams the Dragons face this season as the school district attempts to give the Okinawa teams more competition.**

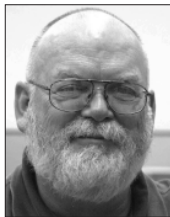
Working with Japanese school districts and prefectural offices, Akeno helped arrange six volleyball matches for Kadena and nine for Kubasaki this fall, plus the four the two DOD schools played against each other.

Full schedules of 10 to 12 varsity basketball games and at least 10 soccer matches with Japanese teams are being drafted, Meyer said. The district also will help

schedule Japanese girls fast-pitch softball teams for Kadena and Kubasaki, which are converting from slow-pitch this year.

"We're trying to give them competition" meeting Kadena's and Kubasaki's level in all sports, Meyer said.

Japanese schools tend to be superior in soccer and volleyball, he said, while American basketball teams tend to physically over-



Henry Meyer

whelm their Japanese counterparts.

That made for some challenging volleyball, said Kubasaki senior middle blocker Erin Foote.

"You're thinking you have everything covered" and Japanese players "still find six holes to the right and six to the left," she said.

But without playing Japanese teams, she said, the Dragons might not have finished ninth in the Far East Class AA Tournament.

"The more matches you have," said Foote's coach, Terry Chumley, "the better preparation ... for Far East."

Some parents were unhappy about not being able to send Kadena's and Kubasaki's basketball teams to the 35th Hong Kong International School holiday basketball tournament last December because team members would have missed two days of school.

So Meyer and the Okinawa district lobbied successfully to move the 36th tournament to Thanksgiving weekend.

"They were having trouble attracting teams. Now, both schools are going and not missing school time, which is what we wanted," Meyer said.

But the district's most vocal critic, Kadena High parent Lon LaGrave, continues to see a problem. A year ago, the instructor at Camp McTearous's Bechtel Ele-

## This week's schedule

**Japan**  
Boys basketball  
Saturday, Nov. 27  
Perry at Kinrick, 10 a.m.  
**Girls basketball**  
Friday, Nov. 26  
Saturday, Nov. 27  
Perry at Kinrick, 10 a.m.  
**Tuesday, Nov. 30**  
Amer. School in Japan at St. Maur, 5:30 p.m.  
Yokota at Yokohama Inter., 5:30 p.m.  
Kinrick at Zama, 5:30 p.m.

**Basketball**  
Wednesday, Nov. 30  
Taeju Amer. at Osan Amer., 4 p.m.  
**Okinawa**  
Boys basketball  
Thursday, Nov. 25-Saturday, Nov. 27  
Kadena, Kubasaki at 36th Hong Kong International School Holiday Tournament.

**Girls basketball**  
Thursday, Nov. 25-Saturday, Nov. 27  
Kadena, Kubasaki at 36th Hong Kong International School Holiday Tournament.

**Wrestling**  
Wednesday, Dec. 1  
Kubasaki at Kadena, 5 p.m.

**Gymnastics**  
Saturday, Nov. 27  
All-Island Tennis Championship, site and time to be determined.

**Girls soccer**  
Saturday, Nov. 27  
Guam High at John F. Kennedy, 11 a.m.  
End regular season

**Postseason**  
Wednesday, Dec. 1  
First round

Game 1—11th place vs. 8th place, site to be determined, 4:30 p.m.

Game 2—20th place vs. 16th place, site to be determined, 4:30 p.m.

Game 3—10th place vs. 7th place, site to be determined, 4:30 p.m.

mentary School founded K24EO, or Kadena and Kubasaki for Equal Opportunity, to battle the "travel ban."

"Glaring inequities" continue to exist, he said, adding that "limited progress" made by the Okinawa district amounts to "calculated, token attempts at equality."

LaGrave contends games with Japanese teams should supplement, not replace, competition against other DODDS schools.

LaGrave pointed to Japan and Korea, where student-athletes miss an average of 2½ days of classroom time per season to take part in regular league play co-sponsored by DODDS and international schools.

Meyer believes Kadena and Kubasaki would be wrong to follow the Japan and Korea schools and allow students to miss classes for road trips.

"That's like saying, 'They've jumped off the bridge; why can't we?' ... We have a model that works. We've had to work hard to make it be a model. I don't compare us with other areas."

"We have made giant strides," Meyer said. "We need to do better. It may not be American competition but it's good a competition as they could get."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: [ornaui@pstripes.com](mailto:ornaui@pstripes.com)

# One basketball tournament returns as another gets cut

Stars and Stripes

One major Pacific-wide open military basketball tournament is back on the map. Another has been scratched, at least for this year.

The 2004 PACAF-wide Christmas Invitational Tournament at Osan Air Base, South Korea, has been revived after a one-year hiatus. It's scheduled for Dec. 6-11 at Osan's Fitness and Sports Center.

"I am very happy, pleased to have the program back on the map again," said Tony Mason, Osan's fitness center director, who hosted the tournament two years ago but couldn't last year due to funding cutbacks. The Osan tournament has been held almost every year since 1987.

"We're just trying to provide alternate avenues for our Osan community, positive, wholesome programs, to include varsity sports," Mason said.

But the Martin Luther King Open Tournament, which had been slated for Jan. 13-17 at the Camp Foster Field House on Okinawa, has been called off. Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit Athletics officials announced Monday.

"MLK will not be played due to troop deployments and support" of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, said MCCS Semper Fit Athletics programs director Steve Rowland.

The MLK tournament has been held annually since it was founded by the Okinawa Athletic Officials Association in 1992.

The tournament at Osan is open to the first 10 men's and 10 women's teams that sign up. Entry fee is \$350; the sign-up deadline is a week before the tournament.

Call Mason at DSN 748-9202 or visit [tony.mason@osan.af.mil](mailto:tony.mason@osan.af.mil) for more information.

# Union appeals Stern's ruling

By CHRIS SHERIDAN  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The NBA players' union filed an appeal Tuesday on behalf of Indiana Pacers Ron Artest, Stephen Jackson and Jermaine O'Neal, who were suspended for their roles in a brawl with Detroit Pistons fans on Friday.

The union asked that an arbitrator decide whether there should be reductions in the suspensions handed out Sunday: Artest was suspended for the season, Jackson for 30 games and O'Neal for 25. Union director Billy Hunter has called the penalties excessive, saying a suspension of about 35 games would have been more appropriate for Artest.

Commissioner David Stern, who issued the suspensions, has said discretion under collective bargaining rules over penalties for on-court behavior, and all appeal through him, too.

The union, however, asked in its one-page appeal that the case go to arbitrator Roger Kaplan.

"We're arguing that the discipline imposed is inconsistent with the collective bargaining agreement, and without just cause," union spokesman Dan Wasserman said.

Stern would normally have 20 days to rule on an appeal of an on-court discipline matter, and it was unclear whether the union's appeal strategy would put this case under that timetable.

An NBA spokesman said the appeal was received but that the league would have no other immediate comment.

"I think David Stern is trying his best to preserve the integrity of the game and his industry, but due process must be honored, and all the mitigating factors must be included in a final decision," said Jesse Jackson, who said he spoke with Stern by telephone on Monday.

In other developments: The two fans sued the Pacers and Artest, Jackson and O'Neal, contending they were injured in a fracas at the end of Friday night's game at Detroit. John Ackerman, 67, says he was hit by O'Neal and then knocked unconscious by a throw chair. William Paulson, 26, says Artest and Jackson assaulted him.

Police released a videotape and asked the public's help in identifying a man who investigators believe hurled the chair into the crowd during the brawl. Oakland County prosecutor David Givens has said the only possible felony charge in the brawl could be against the chair-thrower. He said other charges most likely would be for misdemeanor assault and battery.

Artest appeared on NBC's "Today," saying he respected

**During one of his first public appearances since Friday's fight, Indiana Pacers player Ron Artest promoted his new compact disc.**

Stern but thought his punishment was unduly harsh. He uses the opportunity to plug a CD he produced for an R&B group and wore a T-shirt and hat emblazoned with the logo of his record label.

The players' union was contemplating taking its case to federal court. A similar strategy failed in 1997 when the union contested the suspensions handed out to four members of the New York Knicks for leaving the bench during a fight in a playoff game against the Miami Heat.

In that case, U.S. District Judge J. S. Rakoff cited article XXXI, section 8 of the league's collective bargaining agreement establishing the commissioner as the complete and final authority on discipline for what happens on the court.

The language, the judge said, is "so plain, so clear, so unequivocal, so on-point to the dispute that using this contesting strategy is a waste."

In 1998, the union successfully appealed the one-year suspension Stern gave to Latrell Sprewell, then the Golden State Warriors, for attacking coach P.J. Carlesimo during practice. It was reduced by an arbitrator to 68 games.

The difference between Sprewell's case and the current one is that Sprewell's attack on Carlesimo happened in practice, so it was not considered on-court behavior and was subject to the arbitration provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.

The suspensions also could be contested by the Pacers, who have the right under NBA bylaws to appeal the commissioner's decision to the league's Board of Governors.

No NBA team has ever made such an appeal, according to the league.

Pacers spokesman David Benner said the team had not yet decided if or how it might contest the penalties.

Artest bolted into the stands after being hit by a cup thrown by a fan, touching off a brawl in which players exchanged punches with fans, who also threw drinks, popcorn, and other debris at the Pacers.

"This is the third time that I've been hit with something out of the crowd," said Artest, who claimed he had been struck previously in Detroit and in Cleveland.

Jackson also went into the stands and exchanged punches with fans, while O'Neal hit a fan who ran onto the court.

The Detroit fan who authorities say threw the cup that hit Artest described the player as a "thug." John Green, a 39-year-old contractor, made the comments during an appearance on ABC's "Good Morning America."

# NBA has a bad connection

Steve Wilstein



talk about, the one that makes everyone, one edge, is race and its relevance to the NBA's problem.

In the past decade, the NBA has fallen sharply in popularity among white fans and surged among black fans, according to research by the Sports Marketing Group in Atlanta.

In a nationwide study of Americans in 1993, 62 percent of whites said they loved or liked the NBA.

By contrast, the percentage of black Americans who loved or liked the NBA rose from 21 percent in 1993 to 92 percent a decade later. Blacks who hated or disliked the league hardly changed, going from 4.3 percent to 2.9 percent.

The NBA should study those figures without drawing the wrong conclusions. They don't suggest any resentment by whites against the league simply because the majority of players are black. Nor do they suggest that the league would have fewer problems if more players were white.

Larry Bird took some heat last season when he said that a few more white superstars would be good for a fan base because the majority of the fans are white America. "He was probably right, though Stern disagreed."

In 1993, the NBA was coming off the success of the original Dream Team at the Barcelona Olympics. Magic Johnson and Michael Jordan were as popular

among whites as blacks. Charles Barkley, for all the controversy he stirred and the elbows he threw, was a likable player with a sense of humor. Race wasn't a big issue then.

What the numbers suggest is that many white fans have been turned off by some high-profile players. There's a sense that too many are jumping straight from high school, tattooed and bejeweled, and that they have an attitude of entitlement what with huge egos.

As salaries, ticket prices and cable/satellite charges rise, the resentment is growing.

That, in part, is why so many Americans were glad to see the U.S. basketball team get its comeuppance in Athens. It is also, in part, what drives fans to scream epithets at players during games.

When players break the rules or the law, fans react with repugnance. When Sprewell choked a coach or complained that he needed more millions to feed his family, he doesn't just turn off fans, he infuriates them. When Artest and the other Pacers went into the stands throwing punches wildly, no matter the provocation from a few idiotic fans, they reinforce a sense of players out of control.

Stern needs to make all the players understand what's at stake: the league's integrity. The issue now is less about the NBA than the cocaine problems of the 1980s.

If NBA fans can't restrain themselves from drafting players out of high school, they should at least make an effort to give them extra counseling and encourage them to continue their education in the offseason.

Stern can't afford to ignore any idea that will take the NBA off its self-destructive path.

Steve Wilstein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: [swilstein@ap.org](mailto:swilstein@ap.org)

# Artest says 73-game penalty is unfair

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Pacers forward Ron Artest Tuesday wishes he hadn't gotten into a fight with fans but feels his season-ending suspension was too harsh.

"I don't think it was fair — that many games," Artest said in an interview with NBC's "Today" show. "I respect [NBA Commissioner] David Stern's decisions, but I don't think I should have been out for the whole season."

It was Artest's first national interview since he was suspended for fighting with fans late in Friday night's game against the Detroit Pistons. The interview was simultaneous on RadioNow 93.1 in Indianapolis.

"I wish that situation never happened," Artest said. "It wasn't good at all, for anybody...."

"This is the first time that I've been hit with something out of the crowd," said Artest, who claimed he had been struck previously in Detroit and in Cleveland.

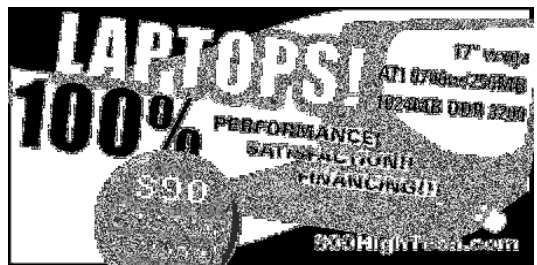
Jackson also went into the stands and exchanged punches with fans, while O'Neal hit a fan who ran onto the court.

The Detroit fan who authorities say threw the cup that hit Artest described the player as a "thug." John Green, a 39-year-old contractor, made the comments during an appearance on ABC's "Good Morning America."

multicast on RadioNow 93.1 in Indianapolis.

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"This is the first time that I've been hit with something out of the crowd," said Artest, who claimed he had been struck previously in Detroit and in Cleveland.





# Wake Forest worth new No. 1 ranking

## Demon Deacons in control all the way vs. Yale

The Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Wake Forest's first game at No. 1 seemed just like the ones they played this season when ranked one spot lower.

Chris Paul, Eric Williams and Kyle Visser each scored 15 points to lead the Demon Deacons past Yale 99-72 in their debut at the top of the poll on Monday night.

"The games still feel the same," Paul said. "You have to play the same teams. I can understand if it was the end of the season, but we're only three games into the season so it really doesn't mean much."

Chris Ellis added 14 points for the Demon Deacons (3-0), who had five players in double figures. They had little trouble on offense in the first half and maintained a comfortable lead while the Bulldogs (1-2) struggled.

Earlier Monday, Wake Forest climbed into the top spot of The Associated Press Top 25 for the first time in school history. The Demon Deacons jumped past Kansas from No. 2 after the Jayhawks trailed much of the way in their season-opening 68-61 win against Vermont.

Wake Forest had been ranked

### Men's Top 25 Roundup

No. 2 for 12 weeks — 10 during Tim Duncan's senior season of 1996-97. The total was the third highest for a school that hadn't reached No. 1.

Paul, the preseason All-American point guard, said the game against Yale was "business as usual."

Wake Forest's first game at No. 1 was marked by a solid opening half that produced a 17-point lead at the break. Nine players scored in the first 14 minutes, with the Demon Deacons scoring 38 points and shooting 48 percent.

**No. 3 Georgia Tech 60, Illinois-Chicago 59:** Luke Schenscher made a pair of free throws with 25.9 seconds left. B.J. Elder hit three three-pointers in the final nine minutes and the Yellow Jackets survived a scare in Chicago.

The Flames (0-1) had a chance to win, but freshman Kevin Bond missed a free throw with six seconds left and Justin Bowen's last-second jumper sailed wide of the basket. Still, it was a spirited effort by the Flames, who haven't

beaten a ranked team since Dec. 12, 1989, when they upset No. 25 Michigan State.

Elder led the Yellow Jackets (2-0) with 17 points, and Jarrett Jack and Isma'il Muhammad added 10 each. Cedrick Banks led all players with 23 points, including five three-pointers.

**No. 9 Duke 74, Davidson 61:** At Charlotte, N.C., Daniel Ewing scored 16 of his 19 points in the second half and sparked two big runs for the Blue Devils.

Duke (2-0) beat Davidson for the 18th consecutive time, but nearly blew a 20-point lead in the second half and struggled to put the Wildcats (1-1) away.

Brendan Winters scored 24 points for Davidson, which trimmed Duke's lead to four with 5:39 to play. Logan Kosmalski had 25 points and 13 rebounds.

J.J. Redick added 18 points for Duke, and Shelden Williams and Sean Dockery had 15 each.

**No. 11 North Carolina 86, Brigham Young 50:** After missing the season-opening loss to Santa Clara because of an NCAA suspension, junior guard Raymond Felton returned to anchor North Carolina's defense in an easy victory over Brigham Young (0-1) in the opening round of the Maui Invitational.



Wake Forest's Taron Downey, left, steals the ball from Yale's Eric Flato during the first half in Winston-Salem, N.C., on Monday.

With Felton back at the point, North Carolina (1-1) opened the game against BYU (0-1) with a 25-3 run and led by as many as 39. Sean May had 18 points and eight rebounds.

**Iowa 76, No. 12 Louisville 71:** At Lahaina, Hawaii, Jeff Horner scored 11 points in a 4½-minute span of the second half, part of a nine-minute stretch when Iowa (2-0) held Louisville (1-1) without a field goal in the opening round of the Maui Invitational.

In Top 25 action Tuesday:

**No. 12 Louisville 93, Chaminade 63:** Taquean Dean scored 21 points and Louisville bounced back from an opening-round loss to beat Chaminade (1-2) in the consolation bracket of the Maui Invitational.

The 12th-ranked Cardinals (2-1) will play either Brigham Young or Stanford for fifth place on Friday.

# Mets sign Benson, close in on agreement with Leiter

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Now that Kris Benson is definitely returning to the New York Mets, the right-hander hopes Al Leiter will be back, too.

"Al's been a tremendous help for me. He got me acclimated to the team when I got over here," Benson said Monday after taking a physical and finalizing his \$22.5 million, three-year contract.

New Mets general manager Omar Minaya wouldn't reveal much about the Mets' talks with

### Sports briefs

left-hander and New York were nearing agreement on a one-year contract worth \$4 million to \$5 million plus performance bonuses.

New York had been trying to re-sign Benson since he was acquired from Pittsburgh on July 30, two months before the Mets

hired Minaya.

Benson went 4-4 with a 4.50 ERA in 11 starts with the Mets.

His deal with the team calls for a \$2.5 million signing bonus and salaries of \$4.5 million in 2005 and \$7.5 million in each of the next two seasons.

### Donovan to leave MLS

Landon Donovan is leaving Major League Soccer's San Jose Earthquakes after four seasons and will return to Bayer Leverkusen in Germany.

The 22-year-old forward, voted

the top player on the U.S. national team for three straight years, will rejoin the Bundesliga team in January following the end of a sharing arrangement between MLS and Bayer Leverkusen.

Donovan had six goals in 23 league games this season for the Earthquakes, down from 12 goals the previous year. Overall, he has 32 goals in 87 MLS games.

### Kahne is top NASCAR rookie

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kasey Kahne, who narrowly missed out on his first victory five times this

season, was selected NASCAR's Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year on Tuesday.

Kyle Busch, younger brother of Nextel Cup champion Kurt Busch, was the top rookie in the Busch Series. David Reutimann earned top honors in the Truck Series.

Kahne, 24, is the youngest rookie winner in NASCAR's top series since Jeff Gordon won it as a 22-year-old in 1993. Kahne finished the 2004 season with 13 top-five and 14 top-10 finishes in 36 starts.



## Top Scores for Week 11

## Best Overall Scores

272	lawhawk	Huttler Kaserne
272	GLADIATOR 36	HSC 94 ECB(H)
272	57Sporty	Fort Hood, TX
272	staff777	HHOC 501st MI BN
270	Wayne Bratcher	80th ASB NSA DPW
268	seahawksfan	409th BSB
266	warvet27	Camc Arifan
266	Scottie Pimpin	MCAS Iwakuni
266	Caseyken	CHICKEN
266	G-Man	1/10th SFG(A)

1808	STEELEFROGWOOD
1798	hbc 2/37 ar
1778	arcby
1772	Jaguar One
1762	SPIELMEISTER 04
1760	JackS8
1760	Chickybowwow
1754	dogboy
1754	Joe Corleone
1752	Allisond

MAG-12
hbc 2/37 ar
European Stars & Stripes
DoDDs
Hofenfels
422 ABS RAF Croughton
726 AMS
374 AMXS
Misawa
18 CES

See websites for official game rules.

Check this space every Thursday during the entire NFL season for the weeks Top Scores and Best Overall Scores during the NFL Challenge.



# Spurrier takes over for Holtz at South Carolina

By PETE IACOBELLI  
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Steve Spurrier took over at South Carolina on Tuesday, returning to the college ranks after a three-year absence.

The former Florida coach replaces Lou Holtz, who retired Monday.

Spurrier got a seven-year deal worth \$12.5 million a season that could go over \$2 million with incentives.

Spurrier led the Gators to a national championship in 1996 and six Southeastern Conference titles before abruptly resigning in 2001 to join the Washington Redskins. But he had little success in the NFL, going 12-20 before leaving.

The ol' ball coach is ready to make South Carolina a winner.

## Ex-Florida coach returning to college ranks

"We've got everything here," Spurrier said. "I'd like to borrow a phrase from the Boston Red Sox: Why not us? Why not the University of South Carolina Gamecocks?"

Spurrier wants to win a conference championship, something Holtz never did in his six seasons at the school. But he has to get past his former team, which was 10-0 against South Carolina while Spurrier was the Gators coach.

Those games figured to be tough on Spurrier, who said he is not looking forward to his first matchup with his all-time rival, next Nov. 12 at Williams-Brice Stadium.

The executive committee of the school trustees approved the deal

for Spurrier. Incentives include \$250,000 for winning the Bowl Championship Series, \$100,000 for becoming national coach of the year and \$150,000 for winning the Southeastern Conference championship game.

The contract has a \$250,000 a year buyout clause for both sides.

Should Spurrier retire and not take another job, he owes the university nothing.

"Maybe we're prejudiced now for Steve Spurrier," athletic director Mike McGee said. "That wasn't always the case."

There was much speculation that Spurrier would return to Florida next season, following the recent firing of Ron Zook. But Spurrier pulled out of the running, say-

ing 12 years at one school was enough.

Spurrier, 59, went 20-13-1 in three seasons at Duke before taking over at Florida in 1996. He posted 122 victories over 12 seasons, tormented opponents with his offensive flair and witty one-liners, and departed with the best winning percentage in league history.

The 67-year-old Holtz retired Monday after 33 seasons, with 249 victories, eighth-most in Division I-A, and a reputation for turning stumbling programs into winners. At each of his six schools — William & Mary, North Carolina State, Arkansas, Minnesota, Notre Dame and South Carolina — Holtz went to bowl games by his second season.

His greatest accomplishment came in 1988, when he led Notre Dame to the national title only three seasons after the disastrous Gerry Faust era ended.

His latest reconstruction project at South Carolina was nearly as remarkable. He came out of retirement in 1998 at age 61 to rebuild the Gamecocks. After going 0-11 his first season in Columbia, Holtz brought South Carolina to its best two-year mark in history (17-7) and won consecutive Outback Bowls.

"I don't know where I'm going to go. I don't know what I'm going to do. I have faith in the Lord to let him lead me. As long as my family's with me, everything else will be OK," Holtz said.

"But I do feel confident leaving here that the football program is on a firm foundation."

# Navy bound for Emerald Bowl

The Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Navy accepted an invitation to the Emerald Bowl, putting the Midshipmen in the postseason in consecutive years for just the second time in school history.

Navy (8-2) will play either New Mexico (7-4) or Wyoming (6-5) of the Mountain West Conference, athletic director Chet Gladchuk said Monday.

It will be Navy's 11th bowl appearance. The Midshipmen lost to Texas Tech in last season's Houston Bowl.

"These young men have earned this through their dedication in the weight room and on the practice field," third-year coach Paul Johnson said in a statement.

A victory over Army (2-8) on Dec. 4 would give Navy nine regular-season wins for the first time since 1963.

The Emerald Bowl, which pays \$750,000 per team, invited Navy after Emerald Bowl Executive Director Gary Cavalli met Sunday with Gladchuk.

"Navy's got a heck of a football team, a national following and has a great television audience and brings a lot of pageantry to our game," Cavalli said. "Navy has the whole package, and the way they played against Rutgers was

the capper for the season. The game will be played on Dec. 30 at SBC Park in San Francisco.

In other bowl announcements Tuesday:

■ Iowa accepted an invitation to the Capital One Bowl, its third straight New Year's Day game.

The Hawkeyes (9-2, 7-1 Big Ten) will play the second-place finisher in the Southeastern Conference in the game in Orlando, Fla.

Coach Kirk Ferentz was rewarded Tuesday with a contract extension that will pay him a base salary of \$1.2 million.

■ Purdue accepted a bid to the Sun Bowl, the third time in four years the Boilermakers will play in the New Year's Eve game.

Purdue (7-4, 4-4 Big Ten) will likely face either No. 18 Arizona State (8-2) or Oregon State (6-5) in the game in El Paso, Texas.

■ Ohio State accepted an invitation to play in the Alamo Bowl in San Antonio, Texas, on Dec. 29.

Ohio State was selected after upsetting No. 7 Michigan 37-21 on Saturday.

The Buckeyes (7-4, 4-2) will play a team from the Big 12 conference, with possible opponents

being No. 6 Texas, No. 22 Texas A&M, Oklahoma State, Texas Tech or Iowa State.

## Fox lands BCS games

NEW YORK — Fox will be the new television home of the Bowl Championship Series.

The network and the BCS announced a four-year, \$320 million deal Monday that gives Fox the broadcast rights to the Fiesta, Orange and Sugar bowls from 2007-10 and the national title game from 2007-09.

ABC has held the broadcast rights to the BCS since college football's major conferences implemented the system to crown a national champion in 1998. ABC withdrew from the bidding last week, with network officials saying they were unhappy with the new BCS structure, which added a fifth game.

## Virginia's Miller one of three Mackey Award finalists

MANHASSET, N.Y. — Junior tight end Heath Miller of Virginia was announced as one of three finalists for the 2004 John Mackey Award, given to the nation's top collegiate tight end, the Nassau County Sports Commission announced Tuesday.

Miller leads all tight ends and is 13th among all players national-



Quarterback Aaron Polanco has directed Navy to its second straight bowl game. The Mids will play in the Emerald Bowl on Dec. 30.

## MAC team filling void in Silicon Valley Classic

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The Mid-American Conference agreed Tuesday to send a team to the Silicon Valley Football Classic bowl game on Dec. 30.

The MAC team will take the spot contractually reserved for the Pac-10's seventh-place team to face a Western Athletic Conference team. The Pac-10 won't have enough bowl-eligible teams to fill its spot.

The MAC team will take the spot contractually reserved for the Pac-10's seventh-place team to face a Western Athletic Conference team. The Pac-10 won't have enough bowl-eligible teams to fill its spot.

The award, named for NFL Hall of Famer John Mackey, is given to the tight end who best exemplifies the play, sportsmanship, academics and community values of Mackey.



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# Life without Lewis

## Ravens face more adversity as star RB might miss game at N.E.

BY DAVID GINSBURG

The Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — The Baltimore Ravens have become accustomed to overcoming injuries and off-the-field problems this season, so there was no sense of panic upon learning that running back Jamal Lewis could miss this week's game against the New England Patriots.

Lewis hurt his right ankle during the first quarter of Sunday's 30-10 victory over the Dallas Cowboys and did not return. He underwent tests Monday, and his status will be determined this week.

Coach Brian Billick said it's possible that Lewis, who ran for 2,066 yards last year, could be lost for two weeks. He would be replaced by Chester Taylor, who filled in earlier this season while Lewis served a two-game suspension for violating the NFL's substance-abuse rules.

Soon after Lewis left Sunday, third-string MUSA Smith broke right leg and was lost for the season. The Ravens will probably try to add another running back this week.

If Lewis can't play, Baltimore will proceed without him.

That's the stance the Ravens took during his suspension, and that's how they've dealt with injuries to tight end Todd Heap, linebacker Peter Boulware, cornerback Chris McAlister, offensive tackle Jonathan Ogden, nickel back Deion Sanders, defensive tackle Kelly Gregg, receiver Travis Taylor and center Mike Flynn.

"Our mantra has been, the next man's got to step up," Billick said Monday. "At some point, you keep thinking it's going to even out, but we're not going to have to address that from one week to the next, but so far that hasn't been the case."

Lewis returned to the sideline in the second half Sunday and volunteered to back up Chester Taylor, but Billick decided not to use Lewis unless he was needed. He was not, mainly because starter-back Kyle Boller picked apart the Dallas defense.

Although Boller has gone three straight games without throwing an interception and went 23 for 34 for 232 yards against the Cowboys, Billick is worried about a running game that gained only 59 yards on 21 tries Sunday. Taylor was limited to 33 yards on 15 carries after Lewis got only 5 yards on two attempts.



AP

**Chester Taylor, middle, will be the centerpiece of Baltimore's running game if 2003 rusher Jamal Lewis (ankle) is unable to play.**

"We're not running the ball as well as we need to, and that's a concern," Billick said.

Injuries are part of the problem, but there is no solution for that.

"You can say that as soon as it's all settled down, then we'll be able to get back to running the ball the way we have," Billick said. "Well, it's not going to settle down in the near future."

Ogden returned Sunday after missing three games with a hamstring pull.

McAlister (shoulder injury) and Sanders (toe) are expected to return against New England. Heap will likely need one more week to recover from the

sprained ankle that has kept him sidelined since Sept. 19.

During Heap's absence, reserves Darnell Dinkins and Daniel Wilcox have performed well. Dinkins had three catches for 40 yards and a touchdown against the Cowboys, and Wilcox ranks fourth on the team with 17 receptions.

That's one reason the Ravens (7-3) have their best record ever after 10 games. Their final six games include road games against division leaders New England, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh.

The equation has always been win at home — and we've been pretty good that way — and we've got to steal something on the road in the next three games," Billick said. "One or all, but at least one."

# Dallas QB Henson will likely start

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Dallas Cowboys rookie quarterback Drew Henson is about to get his first NFL start, even though coach Bill Parcells didn't want it to happen this way.

Parcells, who has been reluctant to play Henson unless forced, said Tuesday that Henson would start the Thanksgiving Day game against Chicago "unless things change appreciably with Vinny."

"I'm making the move that I'm forced to make," Parcells said. "The circumstances are dictating that right now."

The 41-year-old Testaverde has a sore right shoulder and back. He was hurt early in the fourth quarter Sunday when Baltimore defensive tackle Kelly Gregg landed on him.

"He just would have to improve a lot from where he is right now," Parcells said.

Testaverde, who wasn't available for comment, practiced Tuesday but threw only short passes during the few minutes open to the media.

Henson's only action for the Cowboys (3-7) before Testaverde got hurt was as a holder on kicks.

On his first play Sunday, Henson fumbled after a defender came in unblocked. But he came back and completed all six of his passes for 47 yards, including a 1-yard TD toss to end a 16-play, 80-yard drive in the Cowboys' 30-10 victory.

"I was excited to get out there," Henson said Tuesday. "After a play or two, you just go back to the things you've done before. I felt fine, I felt confident. If it happens Thursday, I think it will be the same way."

Henson hasn't started a game since his junior season at Michigan nearly four years ago.

# Mularkey shrugs off accusations of dirty play

BY JOHN WAWROW

The Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Mike Mularkey is shrugging off St. Louis coach Mike Martz's accusations that Buffalo players took cheap shots during their victory over the Rams.

"Based on what I saw, I don't understand the comments that came from him," Mularkey told reporters Monday. "I'll leave it at that. I don't see what he saw."

Mularkey declined to get into a debate with the Rams coach over his complaints following Buffalo's 37-17 win on Sunday.

"He's got his opinions, and I don't understand them," Mularkey said.

Martz was unhappy after the Rams lost three cornerbacks to injuries, accusing the Bills of intentional attempting to hurt his players by going after their knees.

Starting cornerback Travis Fisher and backup DeJuan Groce both left the game with knee injuries and did not return. Another backup, Kevin Garrett, did not return after sustaining a concussion.

A replay showed Groce had his legs cut from under him from behind by Bills offensive lineman Ross Tucker. It happened while Groce was blocking during Fisher's interception return in the first quarter.

In addition to his complaints during a postgame news conference, Martz raised the point while shaking the hand of Buffalo defensive coordinator Jerry Gray.

"Two corners, to the knees,

from behind," Martz was overheard telling Gray. "You'll see it on the tape."

Rams receiver Torry Holt also accused Bills cornerback Nate Clements of going after his knees during a cut block on a running play. Holt came up hobbling and missed at least one play.

On Monday, Martz backed off his criticism of Clements. "There's nothing much you can do about that, I guess. It angered me, but it's legal," Martz said in St. Louis.

But hours later during his radio show Monday night, Martz was angry. "I won't live long enough to play him again, I can tell you that," Martz said, adding that the hit on Holt was as cheap as anything he'd seen. "Clearly, it's an intent to injure him."

As for the hits on his cornerbacks, Martz earlier said, "What are you going to do? That's just the way they play the game. There's no more to be said, really."

Mularkey would only describe Clements' hit on Holt as "physical football." He said he was not commenting Monday, when Bills players were off. Clements' agent, Neil Corrich, did not respond to phone and e-mail messages left by The Associated Press.

Bills president Tom Donahoe took offense to another of Martz's

criticisms: that the Rams were forced to conduct their postgame security check at the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport and not at the stadium, a service that some NFL teams provide.

Donahoe said the tunnel outside the visiting team's locker

room is too small to conduct a security check. And he said the Rams declined the team's offer that they conduct the security check at the Bills' fieldhouse, located about 500 yards from Ralph Wilson Stadium.

AP Sports Writer R.B. Fallstrom in St. Louis contributed to this report.

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## SPORTS



Navy headed to bowl  
for second straight year,  
Page 37

## Rumble leaves rubble

Pacers were contenders, now playoffs are in doubt

BY JON KRAWCZYNSKI  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — After receiving some of the harshest penalties in NBA history for one of the worst brawls in U.S. sports history, the Indiana Pacers' deep and talented roster has been reduced from a title contender to rubble.

The Pacers lost more than 62 percent of their scoring when Ron Artest was suspended for the season, Stephen Jackson for 30 games and Jermaine O'Neal for 25 for fighting with Detroit Pistons fans on Friday night.

Combined with myriad injuries to key players, that leaves the likes of Fred Jones and Austin Croshere to carry the load until the team gets healthy and O'Neal and Jackson return.

The Pacers' leadership expressed unequivocal support for all three suspended players on Monday and said the losses haven't changed their goals for a season that began with championship aspirations. "We don't care who puts on a uniform," coach Rick Carlisle said. "There's a standard here. When you put on an Indiana Pacers uniform, you're expected to perform at a certain way at a certain level. That's what we expect from all these guys who haven't necessarily been star players."

Pacers CEO Donnie Walsh called the melee a low point for pro sports and the franchise.

"We apologize for our part in it," Walsh said.

Artest bolted into the stands after being hit by a cup thrown by a fan, touching off a

brawl in which players exchanged punches with fans, who also doused Pacers with drinks, popcorn, a chair and other debris.

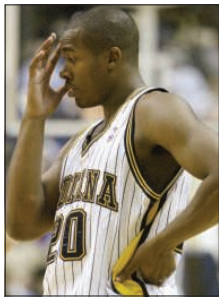
Jackson joined Artest in the stands, swinging wildly, while O'Neal remained on the floor and punched a fan who came onto the court.

O'Neal and Artest have also apologized for their roles in the brawl, but Anthony Johnson said his five-game suspension was "excessive."

"I never went into the stands; I never left the court area," Johnson said. "People certainly can see what the conditions on the floor were like. The chaos speaks for itself."

Now the Pacers are trying to move forward and salvage a season that began with so much promise.

SEE RUBBLE ON PAGE 35



Pacers guard Fred Jones had 31 points in Saturday's loss. With 62 percent of the team's scoring lost to suspensions, Jones is among the players Indiana will have to count on to reach the playoffs.

## Patriots keep piling up victories



Chiefs tight end Tony Gonzalez (88) is tackled by Patriots defenders Ted Johnson (52) and Eugene Wilson (26) during the first half on Monday night. New England was unspectacular but beat Kansas City 27-19 for its 24th win in 25 games. See Page 39 for details.



Wake looks like  
the No. 1 team  
in handling Yale

Page 36



Spurrier hired  
to take over  
at South Carolina

Page 37

Ravens could be without star RB Lewis on Sunday Page 38

